MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN

DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, THE FARM AND THE GARDEN.

NEW ENGLAND AGRICULTURE.

THE FIRESIDE, RURAL LIFE, LITERATURE, USEFUL ARTS, NEWS, &c.

JOURNAL OF

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Editorial.

OCTOBER ON THE FARM.

No language can adequately describe the glory of our October, when the mild days of the declining year lend their charm to the gorgeous autumnal foliage. The spring has its peculiar charms, with everything sparkling with life and growth. The summer has its delights, but its heat is enervating and activity is at a discount. But the autumn puts new life into the languid frame, stimulates to mental as well as to physical activity, and the glory of life is in action, energy and enthusiasm.

The harvest is now to be hurried up, corn generally is nearly ready to be gathered and before the close of the month it ought to be all in. Corn, to be sure, is not the leading staple crop with us as it used to be. It has given place to grass, to vegetables and to other crops better suited to supply the wants of our local markets, but still it is grown to some extent on most farms as it probably always will be. We like to see it. If it does not pay so well in money as some other things it makes up in beauty and the pleasure it gives us to see it growing. Corn will pay to grow with us undoubtedly, but it will not pay so well as many other crops. If a man makes a speciality of it and knows how to manage he will get a good return for his land and his pains, but this year has not been so very favorable to its early ripening. It needs a hot July and August and we never knew a colder August than we had this year.

Many farmers dig potatoes and let them lie on the ground all day in the sun to dry. That is a thing we see almost every day at this season of the year, but we believe it is all wrong. Potatoes ought never to be exposed to the light. They ought never to be heated in the sun especially, but stored cool, just as they are dug, and as soon after they are taken from the ground as possible, either in the cellar or in piles or pits where they are to be wintered. At any rate they should be covered or protected from the light and from drying winds. It is not so important that they should be stored dry as many think, and they have been dug in a rainy day and put in muddy and kept well, but we should not recommend that, though we honestly believe it would be better and more sensible than exposing them to the sun. If potatoes are dried in the sun and stored warm as is apt to be the case where this practice is followed they will be apt to heat. The centre of the pile may get to steaming and that will lead to decay.

Every farmer has noticed that where a potato in growing has become exposed to the sun by the washing off or removal of the surface earth, it will turn green or quite dark colored. Certain chemical changes take place from this exposure to the sun, and it has been said that in this condition the potato is unhealthful, if not indeed poisonous. Whether this be so or not, we cannot positively say, but we can say that this sun drying process is positively injurious and useless, and ought to be stopped.

We do not like the idea of storing potatoes or other vegetables in large masses in the house cellar, a practice so common in the country. It is objectionable for many reasons, though it may be convenient for an amount sufficient for family supply. It is better, for the main crop, to store in pits or on a dry knoll where they can be covered up with earth. Potatoes keep better when buried with earth filling all the interstices between the tubers, so as to keep them cool and dark, and this is the great secret of storing them successfully.

Apples will have to be picked this month and the crop is so abundant in some sections as to take some time. The crop, generally, however, is not so great as has been expected. A kind of blight came upon the trees in many places, so that young fruit dropped off badly. We think that all first class winter fruit will pay for picking carefully and storing properly.

Besides the operations of harvesting which will fill up the month pretty completely on most farms, fall ploughing will be in order, and towards the end of the month the mangolds should be raised from the ground and piled up in heaps where they can be conveniently and quickly covered up on the approach of a cold night. It is not always safe to leave them in the ground till November. Sometimes it will do, but in case of a hard frost they are liable to be injured.

Cattle that have been left out through the night in summer and fall ought to be put up now, especially cows in milk and young calves. The cold nights will be sure to reduce the milk of cows, and young calves will not be benefited by the exposure. We think they should be housed early.

AN ENGLISH BLUNDER.

In the last number of the *Farmer's Magazine* for September, a fine steel plate of a Hereford bull is given as the Frontispiece and under it the name "Comtesse" is conspicuously placed. A description of the plate on the first page says that "Comtesse, a French lady, is as neat and varmint a little blood hack as ever was moulded, a good, hardy chestnut, fourteen hands two inches high, with a star in her forehead" etc.

If any American agricultural journal of high standing had made so stupid a blunder the English "Farmers" would have chuckled heartily over it. We hope they will see that the best of editors are liable to mistakes. It is a pity to spoil such a fine and expensive steel plate of a Hereford bull as that by so stupid a lettering.

SOME FACTS ABOUT MILK.

Milk consists of certain fatty or oily particles in solution, of caseine and of sugar of milk. The fatty matters do not exist in a free condition, but are enclosed in little globules which rise to the surface on account of their being lighter than the liquid in which they float. The casing or covering of the fatty matters or the skins of the little globules are composed of caseine or curd. The globules are of different sizes in the milk of different animals. Some of them are round, but others are oval or egg shaped.

Milk also contains, in addition, a certain portion of mineral matter, which consists of phosphate of lime and phosphate of magnesia, the chief constituents also of bones. In diseased milk there are certain other substances which may be said to be accidental and which cannot be identified by chemical tests, but only by the microscope.

The whiteness of milk is due to the opaque globules which are suspended in it. A bluish tint indicates a small amount of cream. The whiter or the more opaque it is the more curd and butter it contains and the richer it is. The quality of milk is usually better from September to November than at other seasons of the year, but the quantity is usually less at that time. If cows are not well fed as the winter approaches, the yield will not only be small, but the quality will be poor.

In moist climates the yield of the cow will be more abundant, but the quality poor, that is, more thin and watery than in dry climates. The moisture in the food will have a very marked effect upon the quality. It is an error to suppose, as many do, that the morning's milk is richer than the evening's. This depends very much on the character of the food which is consumed four or five hours previous to milking. If it is poorer at evening it will be found that the food consumed has been poorer in quality. The composition of cream varies as much or nearly as much as that of milk.

The whole of the cream rises in twenty-four hours' time when the milk is set at a temperature of sixty-two degrees. It is a mistake to suppose that more cream rises by letting milk stand thirty-six hours as many do. The quantity will almost invariably be appreciably less and the quality poorer. The cream which rises first is the richest in quality, it being the largest globules that rise first to the surface.

A most careful experiment was tried to ascertain the proper time which milk should be allowed to stand to raise cream. Milk that was allowed to stand sixty hours produced only twenty-seven pounds of butter, while an equal quantity standing only thirty hours produced thirty pounds of butter. It was found also that one hundred measures of new milk yielded thirteen and a half measures of cream after standing eighteen hours, and the same quantity after twenty-four hours, but less than thirteen measures after standing forty-eight hours. The same experiment was carefully repeated, when one hundred measures gave thirteen measures after standing eighteen hours, and the same quantity after twenty-four hours, but it gave only twelve measures after standing forty-eight hours. It was proved that eighteen hours with milk standing in a temperature of sixty-two degrees is better than any longer time, and that all the cream that is worth getting will rise in that time.

Milk that has been agitated or shaken up, as when sent by railway, throws up less cream than that which has been less disturbed. A careful trial was made to settle this point and here is the result. One hundred measures of new milk, after standing twenty-four hours at sixty-two degrees, gave twelve measures or twelve per cent. of cream, while at the same time, a like quantity of the same milk, after having been gently shaken in a bottle, threw up only eight per cent., a loss of one third in the quantity of cream. This shows that the shaking the milk gets when transported by rail has the effect of breaking some of the cream or butter globules, the consequence of which is either that a portion of the fatty matter remains suspended in the milk, or, which is, perhaps, more probable, the cream which is thrown up becomes richer in fat.

BOOKS ON AGRICULTURE.

There is one point of view which is often overlooked in considering the importance of a high standard of agricultural literature to the progress and development of practical agriculture, and that is the influence of enthusiasm, not only in keeping young men upon the farm but in stimulating them to constant effort towards a higher standard of excellence and success. And in this direction it is hardly possible to over-estimate the value and practical importance of good books. Let any man become interested in any particular pursuit or any subject, no matter what it may be, and follow it up by the study of what has been said upon it by others, learn the results of investigation and experiment and he will be inspired with enthusiasm, and enthusiasm is the main spring of success. It will not only carry a man upon the farm but keep him there, if anything will, and not only that but it will inspire all about him with enthusiasm. It is contagious, inspiring and all powerful, be it for good or for evil. If scientific investigation and well written books upon the infinite variety of questions arising upon the farm had done nothing else but to create an enthusiastic love for rural pursuits, and a more minute and intimate knowledge of them, it would have rendered an invaluable service to mankind. And this it has done. There is a spirit of inquiry among the farming community to-day, more controlling and influential than at any former period of our history, and this alone will lead us steadily and surely to higher results, if this spirit is rightly encouraged and directed.

One striking change to be observed in more recent works, is the higher scientific one which our best writers for the press and our public lecturers have adopted. It indicates the progress of thought, a striving for something higher on the part of the people and a preparation for the best instruction. Most intelligent farmers will read works of a higher scientific character and derive real interest and instruction from them now, than they would a few years ago. They have gradually become more familiar with technical terms, and science itself seems less formidable than it used to. Besides, the connection of science and practice is more apparent.

American agricultural literature is of recent origin. Till within the memory of men still living, our works upon agriculture were imported from the mother country, where they were prepared for a different climate, for a different system of farming and for a different people. The last ten years have done much to change this, and we may now be said to have a literature of our own that is worthy of the confidence of everyone engaged in the art of farming.

To be of value to an agricultural people, our literature should be practical, progressive, suggestive, to say the least. If we look over the works of the ancient writers upon agriculture, we shall find that so far from indicating any progress, they are confined to a practice that is hardly susceptible of improvement.

Questions & Answers.

BLIGHT IN HOPS.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

Can you inform me through the *Ploughman*, what is the cause of the blight in many of my hop hills? the vines seem to be as stout as any in the yard, and yet there seems to be no hops; while the next hills adjoining may be loaded. Respectfully yours,

A. EASTMAN.

North Conway, N. H., Sept. 21st, 1874.

Probably they failed to be fertilized for want of sufficient staminate plants near them. There may be some other cause, but we can see none in the statement. Possibly some of our hop growing readers can give us light on the subject.—[ED.

HARVESTING ONIONS.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

Will some one who has had experience in onion culture, give the right method for drying and curing the tops, so that the onions will be in good shape for market? If some one will answer in the *Ploughman* at once, it would oblige a SUBSCRIBER.

Casco, Me., Sept. 21.

The best onion growers in this neighborhood pulled the crop two or three weeks ago, threw them in winrows on the ground where they grew and let them lie there in the sun. They are allowed to remain so a fortnight or longer, but if there comes a rain they are turned over after it, so that they dry uniformly. That is the universal way of ripening up onions in Danvers and Marblehead and other towns about here where they are grown.—[ED.

WORCESTER WEST EXHIBITION.

The annual Fair of this flourishing society was held at Barre on Thursday and Friday, the 24th and 25th of September. The days were superb, the exhibition extensive both in the stock and the Hall departments, and the attendance very large.

The President of the society, Hon. Ginery Twichell, who throws his soul into all he undertakes, infused a spirit of enthusiasm throughout the exercises, and that is sure to make a success when other things are favorable. We have often visited this society before, but never saw on its grounds so extensive or so creditable a display.

This section of country is celebrated for its dairy stock, and the quality of this branch of the exhibition was such as to vindicate the energy and judgment of the farmers in the improvement of their herds. Years ago this fair was largely occupied by Shorthorn stock, the rich pasturage hereabouts being especially favorable for those hearty feeders, but more recently enterprise and a de ire for improvement have led to the introduction of several of the other breeds, notably of Ayrshires and Dutch, both of which breeds seem to be adapted to the locality, and are giving general satisfaction. Jerseys are not numerous, but those who have them feel sanguine that they are worthy of permanent location here. The relative appreciation of the different breeds may be inferred from the number of entries on the Secretary's books, which were 83 Shorthorns, 62 Ayrshires, 44 Jerseys, and 29 Dutch. There were besides 14 fat cattle, 34 sheep, 88 swine, and 22 entries of poultry. Nearly all the bulls were thoroughbred, and the cows and heifers were perhaps one-quarter of them full blood, while all the others were of high grade.

The largest exhibitor of Jerseys was J. W. Mowry, who had a herd of 15 animals. Beside these stood a herd of 16 grade Ayrshires, and 4 grade Shorthorns, with one Ayrshire cow 19 years old, ancestor of nearly every animal in the herd. Notwithstanding her great age her teeth were still in good condition. E. H. Paige exhibited 6 head of Shorthorn grades. William Robinson exhibited the bull 6th Lord of Texalaar, Dutch, and several of his progeny.

Dairy cows, in herds of three, five and six, were shown by Cameron Corbin, Charles Mandell, Peter Harwood, J. W. Hagar, W. E. Barrett, Robinson & Lane, Francis Heward, H. S. Conant, James T. Stevens, Luther Crawford, Wilcutt Harwood, Luther Woodis, David Bacon, and Dr. Geo. Brown, while single cows were shown by Francis Howland, A. A. Cleveland, and others. Heifers, high grades, and mostly Shorthorns and Ayrshires, were shown by A. S. Johnson 2, N. Holland, Wm. Hamilton 2, Robinson & Lane 11, C. S. Field 9, Nancy Partridge 3, Dr. Geo. Brown 8, Michael Conant 9, H. L. Conant 3, E. R. Carpenter 1, S. E. Bates 1, J. T. Stevens 10, Wilder Barnes 1.

Thoroughbreds were shown by the following named parties:—E. H. Paige, Hardwick, Shorthorns; L. E. Hill, Ayrshires; John Hancock, Durham bull; Wm. Mixter, Jersey bull and cows, and Ayrshire bull; Moses Pollard, Aryshire bull and cows; Orin Trow, Dutch bull; C. K. Wilder, Petersham, Durham bull; L. E. Hill, Ayrshire bull and cows; S. S. Crabtree, Ayrshire bull; Peter Harwood, Jersey bull and cows; Luther H. Woodis, Ayrshire bull, etc. Steers in pens, and broken to the yoke, were shown by a large proportion of the above named parties.

There was also a large display of fat cattle, headed by those magnificent monster oxen of Elliot Swan of Worcester. Other exhibitors were, Elbridge Williams, fat steers; S. W. Baker, fat oxen and steers; Wm. Mixter, A. S. Johnson and David C. Page, fat cows; and Daniel Cole, Wm. Hamilton, and H. S. Miner, fat oxen; the latter weighing 4220 pounds.

The display of sheep was not remarkable for quality, but there was a fair number of entries, the breeds being almost as various and mixed as the exhibitors. S. S. Foster, C. R. Adams, J. W. Patterson and W. P. Adams exhibited grade Cotswolds, Wm. Hamilton and W. H. Mason exhibited Leicesters, R. Z. Johnson exhibited a cross of Southdown and English Smut, Alfred Boyden and L. C. Fisher exhibited Natives, Cameron Corbin exhibited a cross of Cotswold and Leicester, and Caleb Harwood exhibited Southdowns.

The swine were also a mixed lot, and were as follows:—Alvin Bridges, an Essex and Chester boar; J. W. Hagar, a Chester boar; C. G. Allen, a Chester sow and 12 pigs; D. D. Cole, an Essex and Chester sow and 10 pigs; W. R. Barrett, a Chester and Suffolk sow and 9 pigs; Dr. Geo. N. Bates, Chester pigs; Wm. R. Barrett, Chester and Columbia pigs; Luther Crawford, 10 Essex pigs; Dr. Geo. Brown, a sow and pigs, a triple cross of Essex, Chester and Suffolk; and J. D. Hinckley, Essex and Chester pigs, and an Essex boar.

The hall exhibition was one of the largest and most complete ever seen on the grounds, and included a magnificent display of dairy products, all, however, exhibited anonymously, that the Committee might judge impartially. Cheese in little mountains, and butter in heaps, with bread, white and brown, occupied a large portion of the tables.

The display of vegetables and field crops was also profuse. Field crops in variety by Peter Harwood, Charles G. Allen, and Dr. George Brown, and kitchen vegetables and garden crops were shown by David Bacon, P. H. Babbitt, Fred. A. Ruggles, Mrs. John Walker, D. R. Tyler, F. O. Warner, and W. T. Adams. Winter squashes were specially exhibited by David Bacon and Dr. George Brown.

The display of apples was very large, and the entries were almost without exception excellent. The exhibitors were: Autumn apples, Peter Harwood, 7 varieties, Wilcutt Harwood 10, Albert Carruth 13, David Bacon 10, E. H. Edgerly 6, J. H. Goddard 8, N. H. Smith 7, Cameron Corbin 13, Caleb Harwood 11, Nathaniel Holland 16, Wm. Hamilton, Hardwick, 8, P. H. Babbitt 5, F. D. Ruggles, Hardwick, 8, D. R. Tyler 10; winter apples, Peter Harwood 21, Wilcutt Harwood 9, Albert Carruth 15, David Bacon 10, E. H. Edgerly 7, J. H. Goddard 12, N. K. Smith 8, Mrs. Harriet Woods 6, Caleb Harwood 11, Nathaniel S. Holland 14, P. H. Babbitt 7, J. F. & B. W. Washburn 8, A. F. Adams 9, H. W. Lincoln 12, F. D. Ruggles, Hardwick, 14, D. R. Tyler, Warren, 13.

THE PLOUGHING MATCH

was the first public performance in order on the opening day. It began at 8 1-2 o'clock with six entries of oxen and eight of horses. After the ploughing match came the trial of working horses, followed by a trial of working oxen, the display of horses on the track, including stallions, mares and colts, stallion colts, gelding and mare colts, and carriage horses.

At half past twelve the procession formed at the President's tent just outside the track, and proceeded to the dining room above the hall, where the annual dinner was served, under the direction of Mr. Marrs of Worcester. Grace was said by Rev. Edwin Smith of Barre.

After the appetites of all were satisfied, the president of the society, Hon. Ginery Twichell, spoke in terms of regret of the absence of Hon. Marshall P. Wilder, who had been expecting to be present, and who was as much disappointed by the sickness which compelled him to stay at home as any of the audience could be. He was very proud of the exhibition and was glad that it had been so successful this year. He then proceeded to speak of the value of imported cattle, and declared that those who decried them forgot that the first stock of this country—the three speckled heifers and a brindled bull—which were landed at Plymouth in 1624, were all imported stock. He then introduced Lieut. Gov. Talbot, who spoke as follows:

LIEUT. GOV. TALBOT'S ADDRESS.

I am very glad to be able to meet with you all to-day. Glad to see such indications on all sides of your thrift and success in the branch of industry which we come here to celebrate to-day. The Barre Cattle Show and Fair has a fame through all the State which I now know is true and well deserved. It is also very pleasant to me to find that in our State, which is so rapidly being given up to the various forms of trades and manufacturing, there are large sections where the intelligence and skill of the people are still given to agriculture and its kindred labors.

The remarkable success which has followed most forms of trade during the past twenty-five years has drawn away too many of our young men, and women too, from this mother of all arts, and now we see the ill effects of it in the over-stocked markets, the depression of business, and the throngs of workmen and workwomen seeking in vain for employment.

But in all this distress I know of no glut of labor in the farmers' market. I see no crowds of farm hands going about from place to place hunting for work. I hear of no strikes among the farmers, nor any complaint that the products of their labors do not find a ready sale at fair prices.

I know to my sorrow that woolen goods are a drug—for I make them, and it would be wiser for us to shut down our mills till a new demand arose, were it not for the operatives who depend on them for support; but *butter* don't fail in price, potatoes are no lower, hay holds up as if we were never to have another crop—everything that we eat retains almost the level of war prices, and I cannot help thinking must pay the raiser a good round profit. I hope it does.

I want to see farmers prosper, I want them to prosper so much that young men shall see the road to comfort and competence is just as short between the handles of a plough as at a bench or behind a counter. When times are hard people will use less cloth and silk and carpets, but they must have bread and butter and cheese and beef just the same, and then farming, which in flush times we thought too slow or dull for the genius of our people, comes to the front again as the most certain and safe of all our industries. I think it is wise for the State to encourage a return to this noble occupation, and to raise the standard of skill among those who follow it by furnishing in her colleges a liberal education in the sciences which apply to it.

The farmer can only keep the place which belongs to him by employing first, as the merchant and manufacturer do, every discovery of science which applies to his business. His rewards in the long run are not less than theirs, when he follows his work with the same forethought, ingenuity and calculation which they do.

But I am not here to make a speech—a thing I can make no pretence to. I came out to see you, my friends, and to have a day's rest and enjoyment among you, which I have had and for which I thank you. Again I thank you for the invitation to be present on this pleasant occasion, and I wish you all many years of prosperity, health and happiness.

EX-GOV. EMORY WASHBURN

Was the next speaker. He said that though he was no farmer, he still had a right to speak to the farmers of Worcester county, because he was born and brought up on a farm in its limits and his early associates were all of them farmers of Worcester. He only needed to see the carefully trained and reared cattle which filled the pens on the grounds to know the character of the men who lived in Worcester county. He had been in Europe and in California—that garden State of the world—and he solemnly averred that he would not exchange one of the fine farms of Barre for any part of California or of Italy. He advised the young men of the county to stay at home, and not be moved by the cry, "Go West, young man."

Charles L. Flint, Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture, spoke of the excellence of the exhibition as compared with many former ones, and congratulated the society on its success and prosperity.

The occasion was quite remarkable for the large number of prominent men who attended it, Lieut.-Gov. Talbot, ex-Gov. Emory Washburn, Hon. Messrs. Hildreth, Whitney, and Stickney of the Governor's Council, Charles L. Flint, Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture, Hon. Charles Adams, State Treasurer, Hon. Oliver Warner, Secretary of the Commonwealth, Dr. Joseph Cates of Worcester, Hon. Ginery Twitchell and Hon. William Mixter of Hardwick being among the number.

Another pleasant feature of the day was the presence of two of the old veterans of Worcester County Agriculture, Messrs. Francis Rice of Barre and Anson Ruggles of Hardwick, the former 92 and the latter 90 years of age.

We returned through Hubbardston to Princeton, a beautiful and picturesque road, where the new Boston, Barre and Gardner railroad is reached. The access to Barre from Worcester is not yet perfect.

THE BARNSTABLE COUNTY FAIR.

The Barnstable County Fair was held Sept 15th and 16th, on the grounds belonging to the Barnstable County Agricultural Society. The attendance was quite large—over a thousand persons being present. The display of fancy articles was very fine, while the agricultural department shows that the industry of the Cape Cod farmers is rewarded by abundant harvests and excellent crops. The live stock exhibited consists of several fat cattle and swine.

The fruit exhibited was of excellent quality, and was arranged very temptingly. Among those exhibiting were Wilson Ryder of Barnstable, who showed 32 varieties of pears; Maj. S. B. Phinney of Barnstable, who exhibited a basket containing 15 varieties of choice fruit; Gorham Hallett, Nathan Edson, E. H. Eldridge, Daniel C. Crocker, Chauncey Conant; T. Arey and A. D. Lothrop had on exhibition fine varieties of pears and apples; Mr. C. H. Bursley exhibited 25 kinds of fruit; Elliphalet Loring showed a superior lot of vegetables; Mr. W. A. Ryder, a competitor for the first premium, entered a fine collection also of fruit. The horses exhibited were chiefly excellent work and family horses, there being no pretence of speed made for them. Wilson Ryder showed a good family horse with a colt, A. L. Robbins a fine colt, Nathan Fish a mare, B. B. Bodfish a colt and mare, and James G. Hallett of Yarmouth a family horse and colt.

Of cattle the exhibition was excellent. The Bacon farm of course produced two fine superior 2 year old Alderney bulls and one heifer. Major Phinney two 2 year old Jersey heifers, which are fine specimens of that breed. L. L. Goodspeed, a Shorthorn bull and a heifer. E. L. Kittredge two heifers. Wm. Dickson two heifer calves, and Marcus N. Harris a 6 weeks old calf.

Very fine work horses were entered by Washington Bursley, Frank Jenkins and John Bassett. L. L. Goodspeed showed a fine pair of working oxen, and Marcus N. Harris a pair of working steers.

Rufus Smith had on exhibition a 5 year old fat ox and a fat cow.

A pair of fat oxen entered by J. S. Parker, weighing 3020 pounds, and a pair weighing 3680, entered by C. H. Wheeldon, attracted considerable attention.

From the Bacon farm were also sent a Southdown ram and nine ewes.

Several fine entries of poultry which were fine specimens, the largest number being from the Bacon farm.

The dairy department was not neglected, as shown by the plenteous display of cheese and butter, prominent among the exhibitors being Josiah Thayer, D. L. Kittredge and Truman D. Eldridge.

Major Phinney and Simeon L. Leonard were competitors for the premium for best specimens of grains, and there was an excellent exhibition.

The skillful handiwork of the ladies was manifested by the very excellent display of artistically and beautifully executed needle work. Mrs. A. D. Baxter, an old lady 82 years of age, exhibited six specimens of ladies' undergarments, which shows that her skill in this direction remains unimpaired by age. A quilt containing 5000 different pieces was the subject of considerable attention. An afghan, made by Mrs. Wm. G. Davis of Hyannis and one by Mrs. H. Robinson of Falmouth, were much admired. There were a large number of beautiful mats, bead work, cushions, quilts, &c., which attracted a great deal of attention. Among fancy articles, Mrs. E. Eldridge had on exhibition a cleverly and beautifully executed harp of sumac leaves with strings of grass.

Mrs. W. L. Wheeldon had charge of the flower department, and from the profuse and beautiful display of wild and cultivated flowers it is to be presumed that Cape Cod, generally supposed to be comparatively sterile, is capable of producing as beautiful and choice flowers as often delight the eye. The exhibition of fruit, too, was very fine. The skill of William H. Paine, a blind man, formerly a journalist, in manufacturing brooms and seating chairs was evidenced by several specimens of these articles of his own manufacture.

The dinner, on the second day of the Fair, was heartily partaken of, after which the Hon. J. D. D. Coggswell delivered an address of deep historical interest, referring to the distinguished people who had gone from the Cape, and saying that the soil had become so impoverished as to be unable to support a large population. He gave much scientific and practical information upon the improvement of land, which it is impossible to do justice to in a synopsis, and closed with an eloquent plea for the soil which had nourished James Otis and Samuel Shaw. The large audience showed their interest in close attention and oft repeated applause.

The following sentiment by the Hon. S. B. Phinney was then read:

Agriculture—We have at our festive Board a gentleman who has proved himself unremitting in his services in behalf of agriculture. Massachusetts is fortunate to find such men to represent her at the State Board, and Newton more fortunate to find such an one to take care of her City Government. I introduces to you Mayor Hyde of Newton.

Mr. Hyde, delegate from the State Board, said the show of cattle, horses, sheep, swine and poultry was not as good as he expected to find and not as good as he thought they ought to make. The exhibition of fruit, flowers and vegetables was fair, but that the ladies in their department had done very well indeed. Supposed few or none of those present depended wholly upon farming for a living, but like himself, farmed it for fun, and did something else for a living. Though not exclusively farmers, they should raise their own fruits and vegetables of good quality. Referred to the exhausted soils and how they could be restored to fertility; advised the giving of more attention to the cultivation of gardens; gave his method of growing grapes and the ease with which it may be done; advised all who could to keep a Jersey cow, and thus raise their own milk and cream. It is a great luxury, and within the reach of even those who have no large pastures in which to keep their cows. They may raise corn fodder, millet, &c., with which to feed them. Every owner of land should make the most of it.

We append some of the premiums awarded:

Poultry—Best lot of barnyard fowl—To the Bacon Farm, 1st; Jas. Knowles, 2d; Mrs. Jas. G. Hallett, 3d; P. Karney, 4th; and Waterman Wood, 5th premium.

Ducks—Bacon Farm, 1st; P. Karney, 2d; Bacon *Farm*, 3d.

Turkeys—Harrison Fish, 1st; P. Karney, 2d; B. T. Cobb, 3d.

Geese—Bacon Farm, 1st.

Fat Cattle—Oxen—J. S. Parker, 1st and 2d; Rufus Smith, 3d. Fat Steers—Rufus Smith, 1st and 2d; Marcus N. Harris, 3d. Fat Cows—Rufus Smith, 1st.

Flowers—Cultivated Flowers—Mrs. R. H. Harris, 1st premium, $5; E. A. Scudder, 2d, $4; Minnie Holmes, 3d, $3, and premium of $1 each to Mrs. F. Crocker, Miss Wheldon, Mrs. Thayer, Mrs. Doane and Mrs. Warren, Marston, and Cordelia Phinney. Several smaller premiums were given. Wild Flowers—Mrs. Jallette Bates, 1st premium, $1 50; Mrs. E. P. Percival, 2d, $1, and 3d premium to Miss Addie Seabury, 75 cents. Several smaller premiums were also awarded.

A very handsome cross of wild flowers was exhibited by Miss Cordelia Phinney, for which she was awarded a premium of $1.

The Amaranthus, exhibited by Mrs. Augustus Percival, bearing 61 flowers, and being seven feet and six inches high, attracted much attention and admiration.

Ploughing Match—This match was participated in by several horses and oxen, and its result was very satisfactory, owing to the excellence of the work. The premiums were small, amounting to from $1 to $3. They were awarded to the following persons:

S. H. Nye, for two pairs of drawing horses; S. L. Goodspeed, John Bassett, Frank Jenkins, Washington Bursley and Harrison Fish, 2d, for draught oxen. The Bacon Farm was awarded a gratuity of $2 for drawing horses. Wilson Ryder also received $5 for draught horses.

Bulls and Heifers—Premiums were awarded to Eben H. Eldridge for a heifer, Harrison Fish for a 2 year old heifer, Bacon Farm for Alderney bull and heifer, S. B. Phinney for two year old Jersey bull, S. H. Nye for heifer and Jersey bull; J. D. Hinckley for one yearling heifer, P. Karney for two one year old heifers, half Alderdey. S. L. Goodspeed for Shorthorn bull, Shorthorn heifer and one grade heifer, E. L. Kittredge for two heifers one year old, and W. Dixon for one Jersey heifer.

Milch Cow—The premium was awarded to James Smith of Barnstable for one milch cow.

Working Oxen—The 1st premium was awarded to Frank Jenkins for one pair of oxen eight years old; the 2d to L. L. Goodspeed for one pair of oxen seven years old, and the third to Washington Bursley for one pair of oxen four years old.

Dairy—Butter—1st premium to E. L. Kittredge, and 2d to Truman D. Eldridge. Cheese—1st premium to Joshua Thayer.

Sheep and Swine—Wilson Ryder received premiums for one breeding sow and pigs and one boar seven months old.

William Dixon was awarded a premium for ten weaned pigs. N. Swift for one ram.

C. B. Bursley received a premium for six Southdown and Leicester ewes and one Southdown buck. A gratuity was awarded to Russel Hinckley for six ewes, and the Bacon Farm was given premiums for one Chester boar, one Southdown ram and nine ewes.

Fruit—Pears—1st premium, Bacon Farm; 2d do. C. Conant; 3d do. William D. Holmes; 4th do. Nathan Edson; 5th do. Eben H. Elcridge. Gratuities to Wilson Ryder, Thomas Arey, Daniel C. Crocker, Gorham Hallett, Nathan Crocker, E. L. Eldridge, Alfred Crocker, Mrs. Edward Scudder, James Knowles, Simeon L. Leonard, S. B. Phinney, C. H. Bursley and S. H. Nye. Grapes—1st premium to Edward B. Hallett.

FRANKLIN CO. SHOW AT GREENFIELD.

The exhibition of this wide awake society was held Sept. 24th and 25th. It was its quarter-centennial, and was a truly magnificent show in all its departments. The Springfield *Republican*, to whose reporter we are indebted, says that Franklin county never before exhibited so large and choice an array of blooded stock as that seen on the park to-day, and a race horse might be proud of the care lavished on these noble brutes by their masters, who groomed them until their fat sides shone in the sun like a glass bottle. To particularize, we naturally begin with the monarchs of the stall, the thorough bred bulls, of which there were 17 entries, a larger number than ever before. Of these, six were Shorthorn, eight Jersey, two Devon and five Ayrshire. Of the Jersey bulls, "Bill Nye," a three-year old, entered by T. M. Stoughton of Gill, attracted the lion's share of attention, while "Young Chancellor" and "Major," the property of D. O. Fisk of Shelburne and H. C. Haskell of Deerfield, were grand to look upon. S. W. Hall of Greenfield is pretty proud of his thorough bred Devon bull "Greenfield," thirteen months old, and an animal of great promise. A "thing of beauty," is the three year old Shorthorn bull "Prince," entered by Zeri Smith of Deerfield. He is of immense size, and in general make up is hard to beat, in or out of the county. The Shorthorn bulls "Massachusetts," entered by Lowell S. Brown of Shelburne, and "George Thorndike," the property of Charles Parsons, Jr., of Conway, were noticeable for their magnificent build and great weight, the latter, 28 months old, turning the scales at 1900 pounds. An Ayrshire bull "No Name" and a Devon "Dombey" were exhibited by D. O. Fisk of Shelburne, and were much admired by connoisseurs.

The exhibition of thoroughbred cows was also generous, comprising 25 entries, of which thirteen were Shorthorns, ten Jerseys and two Devons; Herefords and Ayrshires failing to put in an appearance. The most awe inspiring individual among these herds was a Durham stock cow, entered by William Bardwell of Shelburne, and weighing 1615 pounds, while her youngest daughter, at her side, weighed 760 pounds. D. & H. Wells brought in 19 handsome cows, mostly Shorthorns, while T. M. Stoughton exhibited his favorite Jersey milker, "Nellie." G. P. & W. W. Carpenter of Shelburne, who, by the way, are among the most extensive owners of fine stock in the county, entered four handsome Shorthorns, while H. C. Haskell's herd of meek eyed Jerseys, with "Rosalind" at the head, did not want for attention. A 1590-pound speckled grade Shorthorn, six years old, was shown by A. Kellogg of Shelburne. The show of two year old grade heifers was commendable, including nineteen entries, of which ten were Jerseys. Of herds of neat stock there were eight entries. The exhibition of working oxen was large and choice, and among the principal exhibitors were D. & H. Wells D. O. Fisk and John Fellows of Shelburne and F. Arms of Conway.

The sheep exhibition, although not so large as formerly, included several fine flocks of the choicer varieties. Of fine wool sheep there were six entries, of middle wool thirty-seven, of long wool twenty-four, and of sheep for stall feeding five. Clarence Long of Shelburne exhibited five wethers, grade Southdowns, whose average weight was about 200 pounds, while a full blood Leicester ewe, entered by Charles W. Smead of Greenfield, was pronounced "a perfect handsome," by an enthusiastic sheep raiser. A flock of seven ewes, under the fostering care of a noble seven-eighths Southdown ram was exhibited, and their owner, Elnas Bardwell of Coleraine, was probably about right when he called them the finest flock in the county. Another flock of Southdowns worthy of notice were entered by O. O. Bardwell of Shelburne.

The pig pens were rather thinly inhabited, but nevertheless contained some fine specimens, among them a sow with litter of the Essex breed, owned by H. C. Haskell of Deerfield, while D. O. Fisk of Shelburne showed some of the "Chester White" breed. The show of poultry consisted of fifteen entries of a miscellaneous character. A feature of the day worthy of mention was the town team from Bernardston, which consisted of a long wagon loaded down with the fruit of the farm, garden and forest, with a bright eyed maiden leaning gracefully against a box of potatoes, the whole drawn by twenty yoke of oxen. The department of "youths' horsemanship" was represented by six or eight laddies, who handled their "foaming steeds" in a thoroughly horsemanlike manner, much to the delight of their observing little sweethearts, who were grouped along on the grassy bank.

The display in the hall surpassed all previous efforts of the society, and the arrangement of the various articles on exhibition reflected much credit upon M. L. Warner of Sunderland, who acted as master of ceremonies. That the good mothers and daughters of Franklin county have not been idle was evident from the fact that in the needlework department alone there were upward of 170 entries. Over a hundred varieties of fruits and vegetables were exhibited. The floral display was twice as large as last year, and included large contributions from L. M. Heywood and Alice M. Munsell of Greenfield and Mrs. S. W. Boutwell of Leverett. Suspended over the flower tables, in a large black walnut frame, was the inscription, in letters formed with autumn leaves, "Nothing but Flowers." This unique sign is the work of C. M. Moody, who has of late years made a specialty and done a thriving business in preserving autumn leaves, for which there is a good demand. On the stage were the sewing machines and other mechanical articles, while the fancy articles and miscellaneous merchandise were tastefully arranged on the east side of the hall.

The annual address was delivered from the grand stand on the park by Prof. Levi Stockbride of the Amherst agricultural college. His subject was "The Obstacles of Successful Agriculture in New England;" and his opening argument was that successful agriculture depends upon a fertile soil, a genial climate and a good market, all of which New England possesses. But, unfortunately, it is the general opinion among New England farmers that the only place for successful agriculture is in the far West, where there are no hard pan soils, etc. One facter must always be remembered—the man himself, who practices the industry. If agriculture is simply a series of spoliation of the soil, then the West is the place; but if on the other hand, agriculture means tillage and breaking up of the soil that nature has given us, we have all the conditions.

Stock Breeder's Association and their managers in the success of their first effort. The attendance was not large enough to pay much towards the large expense of preparation, but if the State Fair is to be a permanent thing on the Charter Oak Park, we shall expect to see in future years a more general interest throughout the State, each county or agricultural society contributing to make this annual State reunion excel any of the State Fairs held in New England.—*N. E. Homestead.*

THE HINGHAM FAIR.

The sixteenth annual exhibition of this society took place on the 23rd and 24th of September. The fine weather and the great popularity of this Fair brought a great crowd of people and everybody seemed to enjoy the occasion, as well he might.

The show of cattle, sheep and swine was very large, though the number of horses was limited. From the farm of David Whiton alone were 28 head of cattle, 45 of swine and 68 sheep. There were 35 heifers of different breeds, owned by a dozen persons. Charles W. Cushing had 18 head. Three pairs of enormous oxen, grade Durhams, belonging to Mr. David Whiton, one pair weighing 4472 pounds, and a pair of twins weighing 3690 pounds, could safely be styled "fat cattle." Among the bulls were a Devon (Wampatuck) exhibited by Charles W. Cushing; Jersey bull (Rimmer) by Albert Fearing; Jersey (Pedro quito) by David Whiton; and one or two others.

Some of great size were displayed. Erastus Whiton had a good show. Wm. Fearing, 2d, had three twelve months' "pigs" that should weigh 300 pounds each. Alfred Loring eight fat hogs; David Whiton, mon-trous saws and pigs; Albert Fearing a Chester now of fifteen months of unknown weight, three of ten months, apparent weight 200 pounds each, and four of four months, perhaps weighing 100 pounds each. This estimate may be considerably too low.

We have no space to speak of the fine array of sheep shown by Messrs. Albert Fearing, David Whiton, Eben Ripley, John R. Brewer, B. F. Sprague and others; nor can we discourse in detail of the fowls—hens, ducks, guinea fowls, etc., over 300 in number—further than to mention that this portion of the exhibition was fully equal to any in New England.

THE POULTRY

Of Mr. Starkes Whiton was very novel. Albert Fearing had 40 Aylesbury ducks, J. L. Thompson some swan geese, Harry S. Clark ian-tail pigeons. P. N. Spaulding had the largest fowls; show and good display of pigeons. W. G. Blake, James S. Lincoln and Charles Quin had also a large number. Mr. Elkins of Chassel exhibited a fine stallion, and next to him was the Mambletonian stallion Harvard.

The morning of the first day was devoted to an examination of the contributions in the spacious lower hall of the society. The array of apples was very large, and for size and fine appearance was inferior to none other this season, either in Boston or out of it. There were about fifty contributors and 250 plates of fruit, the probability 100 varieties. Or there were 87 varieties and 279 plates, contributed by 44 persons. There were about 100 plates of grapes, of all varieties, and some 40 plates of pears. Another hall of the very largest raised by Mr. A. H. Cushing under glass. There were also fine quinces, figs and other fruits. A carriage was a dish of gourds, furnished by Mrs. Kimball Eastbrook, strongly resembling goose eggs.

Among the vegetables, the display of which was large and fine of all kinds, was a monster pumpkin raised by Mr. Alexander Lincoln weighing 100 lbs from 150 to 200 pounds, and a 39 pound beet with the name of Mr. Alfred Loring upon it.

Among the articles in the hall were specimens of worsted sacques, leggings, clouds and other articles of that material, from the Hingham Manufacturing Co., harness by D. S. Cushing and D. A. Hersey, leather by Alfred Loring, case of hatchets by Joseph Jacobs, the inimitable Hingham buckets, tubs, etc., by C. Wilder & Son, toy buckets, pails and etc., W. S. Tower, superior boots, Whitman & Co., a small show of stoves and other articles. Outside the building the Ames Plow Co., and Whittemore & Co., both of Boston, and a dozen or twenty agricultural machines.

One long table was denoted to embroidery and fine needlework, and this portion of the exhibition was extremely creditable to the ladies who united in it. It is very seldom that so large and tasteful a collection is seen. There were pillow shams, tidies, mats, cushions, ladies and babies dresses, spread, afghans and a host of other fanciful articles.

The flower table attracted much attention, the show of cut and other flowers and plants presented a most beautiful appearance. In addition to the names of all the contributors of fruit, flowers and other specimens, we will take almost as much space as printing the Hingham directory.

There were also tables of bread, butter, cheese, jellies, pickles, preserves and other handiwork of matron and maid of the vicinity. The Hingham Bakery contributed 33 different kinds of cake.

In the afternoon there was a spading match, in which a piece of ground four by six feet was dug over by Patrick Toomey, thompson in 2 minutes 34 seconds, and by Patrick Fee in 3:15, John Peters 3:40, John Sullivan 3:00, and James Fee 3:30.

The four fire companies, with their friends from other towns to assist on rope and machine, had a grand procession, Lemuel Pope, Esq., acting as chief marshal. There were in the line the Hingham Brass Band, the South Hingham Cornet Band, and the Weymouth Band.

There were afterward trials of speed and skill, which consisted of running 50 feet, getting at work, playing through 250 feet of hose and 100 feet beyond. Niagara 3 accomplished it in 1 minute 6 seconds, and Torrent 2 in 1 minute 15 seconds. There was another trial of distance playing through 200 feet of hose, which was not completed when our report closed.

The second day the crowd of people was more than the first. The order of exercises began with an exhibition of working oxen, after which there was a plowing match on the grounds. For this there were six entries, and the acre of ground plowed in each case was one-eighth of an acre. A team driven by Oliver L. Jones performed the work in twenty nine minutes. H. W. Barden's team occupied forty-five minutes in turning up the same amount of sod. Martin Knight's team went over the ground in thirty minutes. Mr. White's team of horses pouched the eighth of an acre in twenty-two minutes. Mr. Gould's team performed the job in twenty-one minutes. At the conclusion of the match a cavalcade of tandem, double and single teams was formed, and many beautiful and fine specimens of working horses were observed.

At twelve o'clock a procession, consisting of members of the society and invited guests, was formed near the track, under the direction of Captain Lemuel Pope, and headed by the Hingham Brass Band, proceeded to the hall where an elegant dinner was in waiting. Tables were spread to accommodate 350 people, and they were filled. When all had taken their seats, the president, Hon. Albert Fearing arose, and bidding welcome, and then introduced Rev. Dr. Richards of Weymouth, who invoked the divine blessing. An hour having been passed in discussing the good things with which the tables were loaded, the president called the company to order and then read a harvest poem, written for the occasion by Miss Brown. The Temple Quartette next favored the company with some vocal music, and at the conclusion Hon. William S. Clark, president of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, was introduced and delivered an interesting address on agricultural education. B. Patrick McElroy was the next speaker and spoke of agriculture as including to the fine arts. Further remarks were made by Hon. E. S. Tobey, Albert Fearing and others, and the exercises were closed with more vocal music by the Temple Quartette.

Prizes were then awarded as follows; Horned cattle: Best Jersey bull, first prize to Albert Fearing; best Devon bull, first prize to Charles W. Cushing. Sweepstakes—Best twenty specimens, first prize to John R. Brewer; for the best ten specimens, first prize to David Whiton, who also took the first prize for the best five of the same stock. For the best ten specimens of fowls Mr. John R. Brewer was awarded the first prize. The first prize for field and garden products was awarded to J. R. Brewer and J. C. Whiton. The first prize for the best specimen of poultry was awarded to Calvin H. Young and Peter M. Spaulding. Mr. Peter B. Bradley received the first prize for the best station, and P. ter B. Bradley for the best brood mares. Mr. F. O. Marsh was awarded off the palm for the finest three year-old colt, and Walter S. Simmons of South Scituate, for the best two year-old colt. The sports of the afternoon consisted of wheelbarrow and foot races, jumping and other athletic exercises, and were witnessed with great relish by the large number of people in attendance.

We do not object to the introduction of a reasonable number of outside attractions, and if they are not carried too far they interest the people and pay the society. Mr. Fearing and the other officers of the society will know where to stop.

THE PLYMOUTH EXHIBITION.

The popular interest in the Fairs of the Plymouth Society is something amazing. The people turn out there by the thousands, and the admirable grounds of the Society at Bridgewater are thronged. It is a sight worth going many miles to see the happy multitudes, to say nothing of the rest of the show.

The Show was held on the 23rd, 24th and 25th. The President, Hon. Charles G. Davis of Plymouth, met and addressed the officers and judges at 10 o'clock the first day, saying that the success of the Exhibition would depend largely upon them.

The show of cattle was astonishingly large and very highly creditable. Hardly room enough could be found for the large flocks of sheep, herds of Jerseys and Ayrshires and nearly a score of pairs of working oxen. The society made a fine show of poultry, specimens of the finest breeds filling a large portion of one of the long sheds. The pigs, to the eye of the farmer, presented strong points of excellence.

Always noted for its fine exhibitions of working oxen, the society on the present occasion has excelled all former shows in this respect, both in regard to numbers and quality of this class of stock. There were eighteen yoke entered for the test of working, &c., made awards as follows: First class, first premium, $12, to Spencer Leonard, Bridgewater; 2d, $10, E. B. French, East Bridgewater. Second class, 1st premium, $10, to Daniel Bosworth, Halifax; 2d, Henry C. Hall, Bridgewater. For fast walking oxen, Oliver Q. Bosworth received the first premium, having walked half a mile in 6m. 25s.; Ephraim H. Thompson 2d, in 7m. 10s.

There is seldom seen a larger exhibition of sheep than is made in the pens of this Society. The principal exhibitors are Heyward Brothers of Bridgewater, whose Cotswold sheep received 1st and 3d premiums, and rams ditto. N. H. Sampson of Lakeville had a flock of Southdowns which took 2d premium, and a Southdown buck belonging to J. C. Bump received third.

There were seven exhibitors of swine which included the most improved breeds. First premiums were awarded to Heyward Brothers for best Berkshire boar and sow, and to Thomas C. Wilbur of Bridgewater for best litter of pigs. H. D. Bassett of Lakeville received 2d premium for Berkshire boar, and Benjamin Hardin of Bridgewater, 2d for Berkshire sow. The latter took 2d for litter of pigs.

At ten o'clock a ploughing match took place, the competitors numbering seventeen yoke of noble cattle, which walked up and down the furrows to the delight of old farmers, who believe in "breaking up in the fall." The work was well done.

The exhibition hall was thronged with visitors, and great admiration was expressed for the display of grapes, apples and articles of needle work. Among the special features of the Fair were specimens of baskets, manufactured by the convicts in the State Prison, for whose labor the Boston Basket Company has a contract. A new branch of industry, giving employment to the pail makers of South Hingham, is the manufacture of toy ware, fine specimens of which were exhibited by Corthell & Cushing. Among the outside attractions was a large wagon loaded with the products of the State Workhouse farm at Bridgewater, which was drawn by a team of five yoke of oxen, and accompanied by a herd of twenty-five milch cows, which were exhibited by Capt. Nahum Leonard, Jr., the Superintendent of the Workhouse.

MEETING OF THE SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the members of the society for the transaction of business was held at 3 o'clock of the first day. Hon. Charles G. Davis, the President, made a brief statement of the progress of the society, in the course of which he stated that the trustees had, during the past year, erected a substantial track stable and enlarged the accommodation for neat cattle. He referred to the success of the attempt made to reclaim the salt marshes in the town of Marshfield, and advised farmers to prosecute this work in their respective localities. In conclusion, Mr. Davis declined a re-election, owing to his inability to discharge the duties of President.

The report of the Auditors was presented by Joshua D. Crane, and from this it appears that the total amount of receipts for the year was $7242 83, including a balance of $428 83 brought over from the previous year. Of this sum $7148 28 was received from last year's exhibition. The amount disbursed was $9403 70. $2587 of which was paid in premiums and $2335 59 in liquidation of the debt of the Society. A balance of $44 18 remains in the treasury, and the Society owes $710 and the bills for a new tier of horse stalls.

The Committee on Nominations reported the following list of officers for the ensuing year: President, Hon. B. W. Harris of East Bridgewater; Vice Presidents, Alden S. Bradford of Kingston, Lloyd Parsons of Bridgewater; Secretary, Lafayette Keith of Bridgewater; Treasurers, Hosea Kingman of Bridgewater; Trustees, E. B. Thompson of Halifax, Spencer Leonard of Bridgewater, Henry A. Noyes of Abington, Henry Copeland of West Bridgewater, Henry L. Williams of Lakeville, Charles G. Davis of Plymouth, L. W. Puffer of Brockton, James Bates of Plymouth, Jedediah Dudley of Hanover, Thomas Nelson of Mattapoisett, Augustus Pratt of Middleboro', John Lane of Bridgewater.

PREMIUMS.

Herds of Cattle.—Second premium, $15, to H. D. Bassett of Lake (6 head).

Ploughing.—Michigan Plough. First to Lyman Keith, Bridgewater; (two oxen); second, Hooper & Clark, North Middleboro'; horses (swivel plough, first, Dexter M. Sturtevant, Bridgewater; horses; second, Benjamin Horden, Bridgewater, Jackson Plough with oxen, any plough, first, Thomas Jackson, Brockton; second, J. W. Leach, Bridgewater. With horses, any plough, first, Lysander R. Hall; second, Ormond Leach, Bridgewater.

Bulls.—First to Nathan B. Wood, Bridgewater, Ayrshire; second, James F. Leach, Bridgewater. First to Hayward Brothers, Bridgewater, for Jersey; second, Daniel C. Hanson, Jersey. First to Sprague S. Nelson, Lakeville, Devon. First and second to James F. Leach for two bull calves under two years.

Fat Cattle.—H. & V. Ames, Bridgewater, ox, $20; George D. Ryder, West Bridgewater, cow, $10.

Steers.—Mitchell Hooper, Bridgewater, 3 yrs, 98; Rael W. Eaton, Middleboro', do, $6; Charles L. Estes, Hanson, 2 years, $7; H. L. Williams, Lakeville, yearling, $6, Albert Thomas, Middleboro', calves, $4; S. S. Nelson, do, $2.

Cows.—Heman Copeland, West Bridgewater, first grade Jersey, $12; Charles W. Martin, West Bridgewater, first grade; James F. Leach, Bridgewater, best Ayrshire.

Calves.—Best Shorthorn bull, James C. Swan, West Bridgewater; best Jersey heifer, Heman Copeland, West Bridgewater; best grade Jersey, Wm. McNeelan, Bridgewater; best lot of calves, W. B. Ames, West Bridgewater; best grade Ayrshire, Spencer Leonard, do.

Heifers.—Best 2 year old Jersey, Henry L. Bowlker, Lakeville; second, John F. Alden, Middleboro'; third, Charles Keyes, Brockton; best Ayrshire, James F. Leach, Bridgewater; best grade Ayrshire, F. & S. Cushman, do.

Draft Oxen.—Spans, Robert J. McNeeland, Bridgewater, $10; Benjamin Horden, do, $6. single, Hooper & Clark, North Middleboro' $7.

Pair Matched Horses.—Wm. H. Keith, Bridgewater, $6; Two mas Keith, do., $5; E. E. Bennett, Brockton, $4.00.

Stallions.—C. B. Howard, West Bridgewater, $10; J. Fuller, Weymouth, $5.

Mares.—James S. Swan, Cohasset, 10 00; J. B. Ramsdell, Middleboro', 8 00; horses raised in the county, H. A. Hall, Bridgewater, 10 00; Dennis Lothrop, West Bridgewater, 8 00; Chas. S. Jackson, Brockton, 8 00.

Family Horses.—C. C. Bixby, Brockton, 10 00; S. S. Nelson, Lakeville, 8 00; Marcus Southworth, Brockton, 10 00; E. H. Joslyn, do., 4 00; A. C. Chandler, do., 2 00.

Matched Horses.—B. D. Wood, Brockton, $15; Henry K. Tirton, Middleboro', 10 00.

Colts.—Best 3 year old colt, Rael W. Eaton, Middleboro', for three year old; 2d to Stillman Alger, of Bridgewater; 3d to Francis Goodwin, Brockton. For the best 2 year old, 1st to H. A. Hall; 2d, Edward Keough, Brockton; 3d, James Swan, West Bridgewater. For one year old, 1st, T. L. Clark, Rochester; 2d, L. Richmond, Lakeville; 3d, H. Horace Lamprey, Lakeville.

Vegetables.—Best lot, Heman Copeland, West Bridgewater; 2d, Lysander R. Hall, Bridgewater, 3d, Valentine Hubbard squashes, 1st premium; 2d, Nahum Packard, West Bridgewater; marrow squashes, 1st to Nahum Packard, West Bridgewater; best grown of any variety of squash, 1st to George L. Edson, West Bridgewater; best turnips, Cary Leonard, Bridgewater. Best beets, Josiah L. Bassett, Bridgewater. Best carrots, D. D. Sweet, Bridgewater. Best onions, A. B. Keene, Bridgewater. Best cabbage, Spencer Leonard, Bridgewater. Best potatoes, Earl Thayer, West Bridgewater. Best specimen of pumpkins, F. D. Swift, Bridgewater. Best tomatoes, Thomas L. Hanlan. Best Indian corn, Cary Leonard, Bridgewater. Best sweet corn, 24 ears, D. D. Sweet. Best watermelon H. D. Bassett, Lakeville. Best muskmelons, one exhibitor, Lewis Willis. Best muskmelons, one exhibitor, Best Indian corn, Sydney Packard, East Bridgewater. Grass seed, 1st premium to J. H. Nelson, Lakeville.

Bread.—1st, Mrs. Jane Conlin, West Bridgewater; 2d, $5, to Sal ie Perkins, Bridgewater; best, 1st to Mrs. Otis Thompson, Halifax; best brown bread, $5, to Mrs. C. W. Richards, West Bridgewater. Best biscuit, $1, to Mrs. Isaac Perkins, North Middleboro'.

Flowers.—For plants, Mrs. C. L. Hathaway, Brockton, $5; William Wright, Elmwood, $4; cut flowers, Miss Carrie Bridgeman, 6 00; Mrs. C. L. Hathaway, 5 00; dahlias, Mrs. W. A. Thompson, Campello, 2 00; Gladiolus, George P. Barker, Bridgewater, 2 00; asters, C. Covington, Middleboro', 2 00; floral designs, Albert Ames, Bridgewater, 5 00; 2d premium, H. L. Morton, Brockton; best bouquet, Miss Clara F. Parsons, Bridgewater.

Poultry.—First premium—Light Brahmas, M. O. Sull, Brockton; White Cochins, J. W. Hunt, Bridgewater; Partridge Cochins, K. E. Shelton, West Bridgewater; Black Cochins, W. H. Sylvester, Brockton; Buff Cochins, J. H. Robinson, Bridgewater; Plymouth Rocks, S. P. Garner, South Abington; Brown Leghorns, Lucius Dunbar, West Bridgewater; White ditto, George Freeman, Abington. Geese—Bremen, Granville Carver, Bridgewater; Hong Kong, J. A. S. Strange, Kingston; Pekin Ducks, S. B. Edson, Elmwood, remarkable for size and beauty; Aylesbury Ducks, E. F. Erland.

Apples. For the best display, W. Billings, West Bridgewater; 2d George Bryan, East Bridgewater. Best Greenings, R. Wright, Plympton; 2d, George McNeland. Best Russets, J. Gen, Bridgewater; 2d, E. Lyon, ditto. Baldwins, Lyle Packard, Bridgewater; 2d, N. Packard, West Bridgewater. Golden Russets, 1st, G. Briggs, Bridgewater. Hubbardston Nonesuch, 1st, H. Edson, East Bridgewater; Northern Spy, 1st, Jay Chamberlain, 2d, Jay Chamberlain, 3d, S. Pope, Bridgewater; Porters, 1st, W. Ames, Bridgewater.

Cranberries. 1st, Thomas Vaughn, Carver; 2d, L. Howard, West Bridgewater.

Quinces. 1st, B. Arnold, Brockton; 2d, N. Packard, West Bridgewater.

Dried Apples. 1st, E. C. Ripley, Plympton; 2d, Mrs. Thomas Vaughn.

Pears. Best display, L. W. Puffer, Brockton; 2d, C. L. Hathaway, ditto; best dish of Bartletts, Charles Field, Brockton; Louise Bonne de Jersey, ditto; Beurre de Anjou, ditto; Sheldon, N. H. Ryder, South Middleboro'; Seckel, Charles Field; Premier Beauty, J. H. Nelson; Duchess D'Aleuçon, Charles Field.

Butter. 1st premium, Mrs. C. Thayer, West Bridgewater; 2d, M. A. Thayer, do.; 3d, Johanna Thompson, Bridgewater.

Cheese. 1st premium, Mrs. Maria C. Pope, Halifax; 2d, Mrs. E. B. Thompson, ditto; 3d, Mrs E. C. Ripley, Plympton.

Was served in the large dining hall of the Society, to which the officers and invited guests marched in procession, headed by Mr. and's Band of Bridgewater. The whole under the marshalship of A. S. Porter of that town and a corps of aids. Hon. Charles G. Davis of Plymouth, the retiring President, presided, and with him were seated the Hon. Benjamin Hobart, a venerable ex-President of the Society, Hon. Artemus Hale, ex member of Congress, Hon. B. W. Harris, the present Representative from the Second Congressional District, Col. Morrisey, Sergeant at-arms, Hon. Lloyd Parsons and other prominent citizens. The Divine blessing was invoked by Rev. Mr. Rouse of Brockton. After dinner and music by the band Judge Davis delivered a farewell address, and closed by introducing his successor to the Presidency, Hon. Mr. Harris, who made a felicitous speech, in which he accepted the position and thanked the Society for the honor thrust upon him.

Rev. Jethro Vincent, a delegate from the State Board of Agriculture, responded to a call, and assured the members of the Society that he would make a good report of their exhibition. Rev. Mr. Livermore of Bridgewater spoke of the importance of a thorough education for young men and women on the farm, instead of sending them away from home.

We should be glad to give a more detailed report of this first class exhibition did space permit. It is a good illustration of the possibilities of interesting a great crowd without giving undue prominence to the horse trot. He seems to have his place there, but the Society relies upon the inherent merits of the show to call out and interest and instruct a vast multitude of people.

THE NORFOLK FAIR AT READVILLE.

The twenty-sixth annual exhibition of the Norfolk Agricultural Society commenced Thursday Sept. 24, on their grounds at Readville. The weather could not have been better and the grounds were in good condition, with the exception of a superabundance of dust, especially on the track. Col. Henry S. Russell, President, and Mr. Henry O. Hildreth, Secretary of the Society, and Capt. A. D. Calder of Boston Highlands was the superintendent of horses, may well take pride in the fine specimens of the horse flesh of Norfolk County which have come under his supervision. The Chief Marshal was Aaron A. Hall, also of Boston Highlands, and he had a prompt and courteous corps of assistants. The entries were said to be fully as large as last year, and in some departments the entry books were larger than for several years.

THE CATTLE.

The display of neat cattle, was not perhaps as large as it has been in some former years, but there was some fine stock which excited the admiration of those versed in stock breeding. There was very little grade or native stock, the largest proportion being Jerseys and Ayrshires. Henry M. Mack of Dorchester had a fine four year old Jersey bull for exhibition only and a fine herd of seven cows of the same breed. J. H. Wolcott of Milton exhibited a pair of good yearling Jersey heifers, which were raised by William R. Robeson. The largest herd of Jerseys, however, was owned by the Hon. Henry L. Pierce of Dorchester. It comprised six cows, six heifers and four calves. William T. Cook of Foxboro', Charles Sumner of Canton, J. Cronin of Cambridge, Rev. A Little of Milton, Atherton T. Brown of Brookline, who had a fine collection of cows and heifers, were the other principal exhibitors of Jerseys.

The display of Ayrshires was comparatively small. James Galloway of Quincy, Owen Hughes of Hyde Park, who also had a fine Dutch cow, D. Haley of Dedham, C. & C. McIntosh of Needham, who made the largest display, and E. Parker of West Roxbury were the principal exhibitors.

Henry Chaffin of Brookline exhibited a fine Dutch bull and two cows of the same handsome breed.

The display of working oxen was not large, though O. T. Rogers & Co., of East Milton had a splendid pair of seven year old native stock which weighed 4540 pounds, and A. T. Brown of Brookline had a beautiful pair of five year old Devons raised in Vermont.

THE HORSES.

The stables were well filled with excellent horses, stallions which have won a reputation for beauty and speed. Col. Russell sent the flower of his celebrated Fearnaught stock from his Home Farm at Milton for exhibition. Smuggler himself was in one of the stables and was exhibited on the track, and he had also on exhibition Creole, Clarence, Douglass and Daybreak. In the class of horses for all work there were three brood mares entered, and four entries in the class of colts and fillies, and three pairs in harness. In the class of roadsters, under the division of stallions, Silver Top was entered by E. B. Allen of Hyde Park, and James Houghton of Milton entered Brigadier, an English imported thorough bred, Red Hawk, Neptune and Red Hawk, Jr., and North Star of the Red Hawk breed. The same exhibitor also entered three brood mares, one of the Messenger and two of the Morgan breed. S. K. Bailey of Milton entered a Messenger mare, and W. F. Cook of Foxboro' one of the Hambletonian breed. There were twelve pairs of horses and fillies in this class, and seven of pairs in harness. A colt sired by Smuggler and owned by Mr. Wm. T. Cook of Canton, also attracted much attention.

SWINE.

There was an unusually large display of swine on the grounds, the principal exhibitors being N. Farrington, Jr., Canton; Sailor's Home, Quincy; Atherton T. Brown, Brookline; C. L. Copeland and John Sias, Milton; D. F. Decatur, West Dedham; J. H. Davenport, Canton; Edmund Cutter, Punkapoag; J. H. Farrington, Milton, and Lawrence McCarty, Brookline.

OTHER DEPARTMENTS.

There were no sheep on the ground. There was a fair display of poultry, there being some 60 entries and over a hundred coops of fine fowls. Mrs. M. J. Ellis was the largest exhibitor, he having some fifty coops. The display of carriages and manufactured goods was very small. The gardens and gardeners of Norfolk county made a beautiful floral display in one of the halls. There was a very tempting display of fruit, especially of apples and pears. As usual, the Hon. Marshall P. Wilder of Dorchester headed the list of pears with a collection of 120 varieties, which, however, were not entered for premiums. Col. Theodore Lyman of Brookline, B. F. Redford of Hyde Park, Harvey E. Stevens, Milton, D. G. Hicks, Milton, John D. Bradlee, Milton, L. H. Coffin, Hyde Park, B. V. Vose, Hyde Park, were among the principal exhibitors, there being nearly 500 plates in all.

Mrs. Dr. Talbot, Norwood, J. B. Tilley, Brookline, and L. J. McCarthy of Brookline, and James Mackintosh were the largest exhibitors of vegetables.

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The forenoon of Thursday was devoted to the completion of the entries and the ploughing and drawing matches, the former taking place on the ground at 10 30 o'clock. There was only one entry of double ox teams, and the committee awarded the second premium of $10 to William Bird's of Dedham. There were two entries of double horse teams, and the first premium of $12 was awarded to Richardson Brothers of Needham. For ploughing with single horse teams there were five entries, and the first premium was awarded to B. N. Sawin and Aaron Bacon of Dover, and the second premium to D. F. Decatur of West Dedham. In the drawing match, which took place at half past eleven, there were three yokes of oxen entered, and the committee awarded the first premium to O. F. Rogers of East Milton; second to Atherton T. Brown of Brookline, and the third to William Fales of Dedham.

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There were fifteen entries under the class of gentlemen's driving horses, four of which did not put in an appearance at the trial, which took place at two o'clock upon the track. The exhibitors were S. A. Stone, Sharon; W. E. Coffin, Dorchester; F. B. Roy, Franklin, P. S. Allen, Brookline; George E. Metcalf, Norwood; Edward McKenna, Hyde Park; H. Shubin, Brookline; H. R. Bird, Canton; H. F. Turner, Dedham; B. McClenahan, Sharon; R. Holmes, Boston Highlands; and E. P. Cossel, Dedham. The judges awarding the premiums upon general considerations besides those of speed, gave the first premium to F. R. Roy of Franklin for Lady Childers; second, P. S. Allen of Brookline.

LADIES' HORSEMANSHIP.

Three prizes were offered for an exhibition of ladies' horsemanship. Only one lady appeared upon the track, and she rode twice around the course with a grace and ease that would have discouraged many a male equestrian, and the committee had no difficulty in awarding the first prize of $20 to Miss A. Dixon of Jamaica Plain.

The following are some of the principal awards of premiums:

Horses. Roadster Class. Best stallion 6 years and upward, 1st premium, Jason Houghton, Milton. Best Brood mare with foal at side—William T. Cook, Foxboro'. Colts and fillies—best four year old, 1st, Oliver Dean, Canton. Best 3 year old—William T. Cook, Foxboro'. Best 2 year old, W. T. Cook. Best 1 year old, W. T. Cook. Pairs in harness, C. L. Farnsworth, Hyde Park. Best single horse, best gelding or mare, John W. Thomas, Dedham.

Class B, horses of all work—Best brood mare, with foal at side, W. T. Cook. Colts and fillies, best 4 year old, W. T. Cook. Best 3 year old, C. E. Tucker, Randolph. Best 2 year old, W. T. Cook. Best 1 year old, Jo-eph Dix, Dorchester. Pairs in harness, roadsters, best, J. H. Farrington, Milton. Harness horses, best gelding or mare, A. T. Carpenter, Foxboro'. Saddle horses, best, E. P. Tucker, Dorchester. Best single pony, Geo. W. Gunnison, Hyde Park.

Class D, draft or team horses—Best single team C. C. McIntosh. Best pair, N. Farrington, Jr., Canton.

Bulls. Jerseys, 2 year old, 1st, W. T. Cook, Foxboro'; bull calf, Henry L. Pierce, Dorchester; Ayrshire, 1st, C. & C. McIntosh, Needham; calf, James Galloway, Quincy.

Heifers. Jersey, 1st, Wm. T. Cook, Foxboro'. Ayrshire, 1st, C. & C. McIntosh, Needham; grade or native heifers, 1st, to C. & C. McIntosh of Needham; calves, 1st, C. & C. McIntosh. Hon. Henry L. Pierce received the Society's diploma for a fine herd of young Jerseys.

Cows. Herds, 1st, H. M. Mack, Dorchester; Jerseys, 1st, A. K. Teele, Milton; Ayrshire, 1st, C. & C. McIntosh, Needham; grade, 1st, Henry Chaffin, Brookline; heifers in milk, 1st, N. T. Davenport, Milton.

Swine. Best collection, N Farrington, Jr., Concord. Best boar, D. F. Decatur, West Newton. Best sow, C. L. Copeland, Milton. Best litter of pigs, J. H. Davenport, Canton. Best fat hog, Edmund Cotter, Canton.

Poultry. Best collection of gallinaceous fowls, M. J. Ellis, Norwood; Brahmas, A. Starkweather, Brookline. Dark Brahmas, Francis Coolman, Brookline; Partridge Cochins, chicks, M. J. Ellis. Fowls, white Cochins, same exhibitor. Plymouth Rock, A. H. Drake, Stoughton; White Leghorns, L. E. Gay, Foxboro'; Silver Spangled Polish chicks, L. E. Gray; Fowls, J. E. Sherman, Foxboro'; Houdans, E. E. Aldrich, Hyde Park; Dominique Leghorns, fowls, A. F. Stevens, Wellesley; Chicks, M. J. Ellis, Norwood; Dominique chicks, 1st, M. J. Ellis, do. do. Dominique games, same exhibitor; black Spanish, 1st, Iowa, C. & F. Spring, Newton Lower Falls; do. chicks; white bantams, fowls and chicks, A. F. Stevens; silver spangled bantams, A. F. Stevens; gold spangled, bantams, J. F. Cowell, Wrentham; game bantams, fowls, H. B. Slade, Chestnut Hill; chicks, J. F. Moor, Hyde Park; Black Cayuga Ducks, M. J. Ellis. Aylesbury and Mallard Ducks and Geese to same exhibitor. Rouen Ducks, William R. Sumner, Milton. White Holland Turkeys, A. F. Stevens. Best collection Pigeons, James J. Stewart, Hyde Park.

Bread. Wheat, 1st, Miss B. N. Sawin, Dover. Wheat and Indian, 1st, Miss Alice G. Sewell of Medfield. Rye and Indian, 1st, Mrs. E. W. Houghton, Milton. Unbolted wheat, 1st; Miss Sadie E. Gross, Dover.

Apples. Best One, 12 varieties, J W Talbot, Norwood; 5 varieties, Joseph Crane, Dedham; Baldwins, single dish, A D Capen, Dorchester; Rhode Island Greenings, S Bent, Norwood; Gravensteins, Henry Bird, Stoughton; Hubbardston Nonesuch, Mrs. Dr. Talbot, Norwood; Roxbury Russet, B Paul, Dedham; Tolman Sweet, D H Kibbe, Milton; Danvers Winter, Samuel West Orchard; Porter, I. F. Decatur, West Dedham; Peck's Pleasant, A D Capen, Dorchester; Black Apple, Oliver Dean, Canton; Red Cheek Pippin, Crane's Sweet, Joseph Crane, West Dedham.

Grapes. Best 6 dishes, C P Gerry, Hyde Park. Single dishes, best Delaware, J B Tilley Jerseys and Ayrshires. Henry M. Mack of Dorchester had a fine four year old Jersey bull for exhibition only and a fine herd of seven cows of the same breed. J. H. Wolcott of Milton exhibited a pair of good yearling Jersey heifers, which were raised by William R. Robeson. The largest herd of Jerseys, however, was owned by the Hon. Henry L. Pierce of Dorchester. It comprised six cows, six heifers and four calves. William T. Cook of Foxboro', Charles Sumner of Canton, J. Cronin of Cambridge, Rev. A Little of Milton, Atherton T. Brown of Brookline, who had a fine collection of cows and heifers, were the other principal exhibitors of Jerseys.

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NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE FAIR.

The twentieth New Hampshire State Agricultural Fair opened in the city of Manchester, on Tuesday, with a dark, lowering sky, and drizzling rain, but on Wednesday morning the day opened clear and bright, with every prospect of a successful exhibition. The entries were fully up to those o previous years. In some particular classes —fruits for instance—the display far exceeded that of former Fairs. The exhibition was divided into fifty-four classes. The first day was mostly devoted to receiving entries and putting the articles intended for exhibition in place. At 11 o'clock the president of the society, Gen. Natt Head, delivered the opening address.

ADDRESS OF GEN. HEAD, PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY.

Gentlemen of the Society: We have met this morning for the purpose of opening the Twentieth Annual Exhibition of this Society. It is, indeed, very gratifying and encouraging to every one in our State interested in agriculture, to witness the progress we are making from year to year. Gentlemen, we are moving forward as we should, instead of backward. Every year we increase our premiums; every year the flocks and herds show improvement; also new results of our mechanical ingenuity come forth. In looking over the grounds this morning I am more than ever before gratified with the indications of prosperity in the industries which we represent, and should we be favored with good weather, we hope to please all who may come during the four days to see our exhibition.

In entering upon the labors of this exhibition I desire to say a word to the officers and superintendents of the various departments. Gentlemen, bear in mind the duties that lie before you, and remember we shall hold you responsible for the department to which you have been assigned, and which is under your charge. Don't allow the exhibitors to complain for want of anything that we can reasonably afford them, and don't put on your badge of office unless you are posted and can answer all proper inquiries that may be asked by contributors and visitors. No ardent spirits, liquors or gambling will be allowed upon the grounds, and we hope the marshals and police will preserve good order.

A meeting of all officers and judges will be held at the President's tent to-morrow, at ten o'clock, when the books will be given to the different committees and all vacancies filled; and all interested are invited to be present, and, if they are not satisfied with the judges appointed, to make their complaint at that time, as it is the desire of the officers to have disinterested and competent judges in every class.

It is expected the marshals will be prompt, and no one carry out the programme to the minute, but give good notice to all that have entries in the class that is to be exhibited.

The Annual Address, that we have usually had on Thursday, will be omitted. And Friday we expect a grand procession, when His Excellency, the Governor, Executive officers, Members of Congress, and other distinguished gentlemen that have been invited, will be escorted from the city to the grounds by the full Fire Department of Manchester. You will be favored short speeches will be made by the Governor and others.

Now, gentlemen, I have taken more of your time than I expected to, and will close by asking every one who is interested to do his part to make this not only a profitable but pleasant occasion.

At 2 o'clock there was a race, open to all horses that had never trotted for money, for a purse of $125; $55 to first, $40 to second and $20 to third. The race and first money were won by H. G. Smith's g. g. Star in three straight heats, beating W. T. Wentworth's b. s. Merrill Morgan and James Bross' b. g. Little Ben. Time—2:51; 2:49 2:50.

THE STABLES FOR HORSES,

The saying that blood tells, and that this matto is the belief of New Hampshire farmers, was made doubly certain by the elegant specimens competing here. The noble stallion, the fine brood mare and filly, and even the work horses being the best of their class, while the well known trotters and the justly celebrated running horses Camden and Gerold made it evident that speed was not wanting. Of stock horses, Gen. Lyon and stock, Defiance and stock, Messenger Morrill and Fearnaught Prince took a prominent place.

AT THE CATTLE PENS

A still richer sight greets one, and the Ayrshires, Shorthorns, Jerseys, Grades and Devons, each in their respective divisions, are seldom equalled, if ever excelled, while the array of

COUNTY TEAMS

From Belknap, Merrimack and Sullivan counties, each having at least ten yokes of noble fellows, received everywhere the praise they justly deserved. Among the novelties were the six yokes of twin steers, the property of one man, all well matched and of the same general stock.

THE SHEEP,

Made up of Southdowns, Cotswolds, Grade and Natives, were well represented in the usual numbers, and by fanciers of that stock were said to be well worthy of commendation and fully equal to former exhibitions. Next visiting the pens of

THE SWINE,

The grunters, as complacent as ever, gave us a cordial welcome, and assured all visitors that they were not behind the rest in size and beauty. In each of

THE LARGE EXHIBITON HALLS,

Of which there were three, two of them new and nearly furnished, were displayed the products of the farm, garden, dairy and the beautiful and tastful fancy articles abundantly supplied by the ladies. In the first the tools and implements of the farmer, the nicely constructed machinery of the mechanic and the wares of the merchant were finely displayed. In the second a display of fruit and flowers surpassing our best expectations, and a show of harnesses, the best, as claimed by the managers, ever set before the people of New England. The third, rich in its variety and elegant in its tastful arrangement, was well filled with a general collection of paintings, drawings, mouldings, wood ornaments, busts, preserved insects and birds, with a superior collection of American and foreign coins.

THREE LARGE PAVILIONS

Covered the other articles on exhibition—one for carriages, machines and implements; one for the human exhibition, the "baby show," and the third containing the poultry, of which there was a generous display, embracing all the well known standard and fancy breeds.

MEAT STOCK.

The show of meat stock was said to be the best the Society had ever made and was certainly one of the finest displays ever seen in New England. The cattle pens were on the eastern portion of the Park and attracted many visitors.

DEVONS.

The entries of Devons were quite numerous. Ward Parker of Merrimack showed 25 head, included some excellent specimens. The Messrs. Gage of Bedford were prominent in this department. John B. Sanborn of East Concord, a stock raiser of high reputation, entered 20 fine head of bulls, calves and cows. The cows of T. M. Taggart of Amherst and the herd of George A. Wason of New Boston were complimented. Isaac Woodbury of Salem had a herd, and his four year old bull is a fine animal. R. L. Coe of Centre Harbor had seven pairs of cattle, and six yokes of them are very handsome twin steers.

GRADES.

J. M. Neal of Meredith, shows a handsome pair of working oxen, seven years old, weighing 4605 pounds. J. S. Blake of Keene, enters a pair of nice four years old steers, weighing 3700 pounds. E. Payson French of Bedford, shows a grade Durham cow, six years old, of which he is proud. For the one hundred days ending August 23, she gave 2491 quarts of milk, or an average of 25 quarts a day. Moses Johnson of Unity, shows a cow, five years old, that weighs 2205 pounds. She has never given milk. C. W. Treadwell of Exeter, shows six head of nice grade Dutch, including his celebrated trained bull that drives handsomely in a sulky, and can be worked single or in a yoke. J. S. Blake of Keene, and Nathan Colby of Fisherville, have fine working oxen.

TOWN AND COUNTY TEAMS.

Hon. Frank Jones of Portsmouth, probably had the finest display of working cattle ever shown by one man in New England; he had ten yoke which he entered as a town team. They were grade Durhams, and every ox was fat, sleek and handsome. They range from five to seven years old. The weight of the several pairs was respectively 4150, 4850, 4300, 4250, 4300, 4550, 3900, 3840, 3440 and 4250 pounds. The heaviest yoke was only five years old. Whenever the team appeared for inspection it was surrounded by a great crowd of people, and Mr. Jones was overwhelmed with compliments.

HEREFORDS.

There were but very few entries of Hereford cattle, but those were excellent specimens. Arthur Clough of Canterbury, a well known raiser of that stock, shows a herd of fifteen beautiful animals.

The neat stock department was not only large but it had a variety that made it very attractive. The officers of the Fair are very proud of it.

JERSEYS.

C. C. Shaw of Milford entered a splendid herd of seventeen pure Jerseys. They included one bull and cows and calves, and are said by many to have been the finest lot in the fair. The State Reform School, John C. Ray, Superintendent, showed a nice herd of fourteen head. J. P. Jameson of Dunbarton entered one of the finest herds of Jerseys in the State.

SHORTHORNS.

This blood is well represented. Charles Wadleigh of Meredeth, had a yoke of three years old steers weighing 1550 pounds. John K. Chandler of Boscawen entered a splendid bull three years old and weighing 2300 pounds. The bulls and cows in the herd of John N. Dodge of New Boston attracted attention. Robert Elwell of Langdon, a famous stock breeder, had a splendid herd of eighteen head, his cows being real beauties. H. M. Elwell of the same town, showed fine stock. Hugh Taliant of East Concord had a very nice herd of thirteen head. C. G. McAlpine of Warner also had a fine herd.

AYRSHIRES.

The show of Ayrshires just delighted the heart of every farmer. Warren F. Daniel of Franklin entered a beautiful herd of ten head. The bull, four years old, was raised in Scotland from the celebrated Blackhouse cow. A heifer is from Scotland, and six others of the lot were bred in Canada. Augustus Hazelton of New Market had a heifer which when less than two years old gave 24 quarts of milk a day. The Messrs. Burbank of Hooksett, and Nahum A. Child of Temple, were noticeable in this department.

Editor's Table.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

☞ The *Galaxy* for October, continues Justin McCarthy's brilliant novel of Linley Rochford; Gen. Custer's Life on the Plains; has a very interesting and timely sketch of Marshal McMahon, president of the French Republic; Junius Henri Browne has a brilliant story entitled Loudstone Love; Lucy H. Hooper discourses on French dresses; Richard Grant White gives one of his valuable and instructive articles on the use of language; and it is filled with a list of Tales, Essays and Sketches by favorite writers, which altogether make it a fascinating number. Received by a Williams & Co., "Old Corner Bookstore."

☞ *Katherine Earle*, published by Messrs. Lee & Shepard, Boston, is a charming novel by Miss Adeline Trafton, author of "American Girl Abroad," a book of travel which received universal commendation from the press. This is a tale of New England Life, and its characters are beautifully and delicately drawn. The style is free from sensational traits and the story is one of sustained interest to the close. Its typographical appearance is fine, and he illustrations are elegantly executed.

☞ *The Coming Wave*, or the Hidden Treasure of High Rock, is another tale published in the "Yacht Club" series, by Oliver Optic, whose stories for boys are so popular and widely read. It is one of his best, and issued with illustrations in the usual elegant style of Oliver Optic's books, by Lee & Shepard.

☞ Appleton's *Popular Science Monthly*, to October, presents more than its usual variety or practical scientific articles. It aim is to popularise all departments of science, and for that purpose many of the most able and learned professors, each in his special department, are engaged as contributors. This month's issue presents the names of Prof. S. P. Lingley, Ferdinand Papillow, James H. Partridge, Hon. Lawrance Johnson, Prof. Sheldon Ames, Josiah P. Cooke, and from surrounding neighborhoods We hope a mighty "rush" there'll be By those who wish to buy "*Boys' Clothes*," Coat,'Pants, Vest, Hat and Shoes complete, Now *selling low* at GEORGE FENN'S, *Corner of Beach and Washington street.* oil It

What are English Channel Shoes?

Sewed shoes have the seam that unites the sole and upper sunk into a channel cut in the sole. Americans cut this channel very deep, and the sole and the thin leathers rip in wearing. The English channel, which never rips up, is cut from the surface, leaving a dark line when closed. As it cannot be cut in thin, poor leather it indicates a good article. oc3-4t

CARPETS AT LOW PRICES.—*One dollar Superfines at Ten-ny Cents per Yard.*—We have just purchased of the Administrator the 1st duet of a factory of a bankrupt Philadelphia manufacturer, comprising 200 rolls all-wool Superfines, modern styles, doible quality, which we shall sell for 70 cents. *These are the cheapest carpets that have ever been offered in the market.*

Also, 200 rolls Tapestry Brussels at $1.10; sold everywhere at $1.50.

Also, 150 rolls 5-frame English Brussels as $1.50; $2.25 being the former price.

Also, 350 rolls good Ingrains, at 45 cents.

Also an invoice of Stair Carpets at three quarters' value.

Also 600 rolls Oil Cloth, from 30 cents up to the finest enamelled finish, for less than cost of production.

The above special lines of carpets our customers will find to be very much under value, presenting an opportunity rarely offered at such low prices.

NEW ENGLAND CARPET CO.,
Removed to 85 Hanover St., Boston.
sep26-4t Opposite American House.

☞ **$10 to $1000** invested in Stocks and Gold pays 200 per cent. a month. Send for particulars. TURNBRIDGE & Co., Bankers, 2 Wall St., N. Y. sep19-13t

☞ **FREE** to all applicants, my Summer and Bulb Catalogue. F. K. PHŒNIX, Bloomington, Ill. au29-3t

WHITE'S SPECIALTY
For Dyspepsia.

This is the only prompt, efficient and safe master such symptoms as loss of appetite, heartburn, palpitation of the heart, dizziness, sleeplessness, melancholy, costiveness, wind, mental and physical debility, as well as many others which, if neglected, "*prepare the house we live in*" beyond the reach of any remedy.

I had "Dyspepsia" twenty years, sometimes able to eat only the plainest food, and very little of that. I tried physicians and remedies without relief until I learned of "White's Specific for Dyspepsia," which has cured me.
(Signed) **Mrs. B. L. WEST,**
Vineyard Haven, Mass., Oct. 15.

PRICE, ONE DOLLAR PER BOTTLE.

☞ FOR SALE BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

☞ Send for Descriptive Circular to the Proprietor, H. G. WHITE, Cambridgeport, Mass. 3eb9 26t

☞ NATURE'S FACE POWDER, OF ACME OF BEAUTY, is the only cosmetic warranted to be free from *Lead*, Bismuth and other poisons. Prepared in two colors, Tinted and Pure White. 50c a box. nov22-tf

CRESCENT MINERAL SOAP.

All good housekeepers use the Crescent Soap for cleaning house, kulves, tin, copper, etc. It will leave a polish on the paint different from any other Soap.
For sale by all grocers. aug18-6

New Advertisements.

NOTICE.

OUR new stock of Fall and Winter Clothing is now ready for exhibition and sale in our retail clothing department.

We wish it to be understood that all clothing sold by us is of our own manufacture;—from four to five hundred of the most skilful hands being employed in the workshops in the upper part of the new building which we occupy, on Washington and Hawley Streets.

So much care has been exercised in the selection of materials and in all the process es of manufacture, that we are warranted in stating that the quality of the clothing produced by us this season, for this department, cannot be excelled in this country.

Prices have been fixed at reasonable rates, and we invite all who may be interested to call and examine.

Macullar, Williams & Parker,
202 Washington Street, Boston.
oc3-2t

For Sale.

I WILL sell WHITE LEGHORNS, HOUDANS and DOMINIQUE CHICKS, from pure blooded stock, at $3.00 per pair, delivered at EX Office.
LYMAN CHURCH,
oc3-6t Middlefield, Mass.

For Sale.

PLYMOUTH ROCKS.—One fine Plymouth Rock Rooster, two years old this Fall, purchased from A. H. Drake's celebrated stock, especially for breeding. Price $4. Also very fine Pullets, cross of H. B. Haywood's premium stock and the above Price $3 each. Cash to accompany order. Address
H. D. WELLINGTON,
Box 5, East Lexington, Mass.

DUTCH BULBS.
The Largest Roots. The Finest Flowers. The Prices Reduced.

Send for our New Catalogue, No. 49, describing 473 varieties and culture. A idress
B. T. WELLS, Importer, Boston, Mass.

On receipt of price, we send by mail our collections for house or garden (as desired) of 10 Bulbs for $1.00, 25 for $2.00, 50 for $3.00, and 100 for $5 00. oc3-4t

LADIES AT HOME

And Men who have other business, wanted as agents. Novel plans, pleasant work, **good pay.** Send 2-cent stamp for particulars. THE GRAPHIC COMPANY, 24-41 Park Place, New York. oc3-3t

Perkins' Anthem ok!

Price $1.50. $13.50 per Doz.

A new and excellent collection, by W. O. PERKINS. Will be warmly welcomed by Choirs, as the anthems are not difficult, and are just what is needed for "Opening" and "Voluntary" piece.

THE
SONG MONARCH!
Price 75 cents. Per Dozen $7.50.

The best book of the season for Singing Schools. By H. R. PALMER assisted by L. O. EMERSON. Music principally secular, and is of the most interesting character.

THE LEADER!
Price $1.38. $12.00 per Dozen.

The New Church Music Book, by H. R. PALMER, assisted by L. O. EMERSON, gentlemen whose previous books have been more successful than any others. Please examine.

AMERICAN SCHOOL
MUSIC READERS

In 2 books. Price 35 cts, 50 cts, and 50 cts.

Perfectly adapted to graded classes, in Primary and Grammar Schools. By L. O. EMERSON and W. S. TILDEN. Already in successful use in the schools.

Sold by all dealers. Fisher book sent postpaid for retail prices.

OLIVER DITSON & CO., Boston.
CHAS. H. DITSON & CO.,
711 Bdway, New York.
oc3-to

The Horse.

Written expressly for the Massachusetts Ploughman

STOCK HORSES.

In looking over the list of stallions at the State, County and Town Fairs, one is reminded of the old proverb "that in the making of many books there is no end." The number is legion; a careful examination would convince a competent judge that a very large per cent are totally unfitted to improve our horses, either for trotters, roadsters or for general use. Few of our stock horses have a registered pedigree, and then only on the sire's side, when as much if not more, depends upon the breeding of the dam.

At the New England Fair for 1874, there were an unusually large number of competitors for the premiums offered by the Society. Among them and to all observers, stood prominent, "Mambrino Thatcher," his graceful form and fine cut head showing from every point of observation, a truly symmetrical figure beautiful to look upon; no ragged projections from hip or withers to mar the picture which no pen could improve. The awarding of a gold medal to this favored son of Ashland was a token of the appreciation the Society has for those who spend such large sums in the purchase of fine stock horses; prominent among such men are the owners of "Thatcher," Messrs. Hayes & Kimball of Boston. No city in the Union prises a fine horse more than the "Hub." Many of the farmers have not the means at their command to procure well bred animals for the stud, and have been obliged to breed to cold blooded horses with no authentic ancestry; some having a doubtful pedigree are palmed off as one-half or seven-eighths pure blood, thereby deceiving the conscientious, who have a determination to raise the very best colts in their respective localities. "Mambrino Thatcher" is a warm, pure, thoroughbred blood flowing in his veins, from both sire and dam. This stallion was purchased at great expense, and his services have been placed at the disposal of those having good mares who wish to breed to a horse with an undisputed pedigree. His owners have been strongly importuned by several knights of the turf and others, who are sanguine in the belief that "Thatcher's stride, coupled with his unusual rapidity of movement, would soon place him in the front rank of trotting stallions.

It is to be hoped that this horse will be kept in the stud, and that the attention of breeders may be turned in the direction of sure success by crossing to blood that has been so certain of producing not only the best of trotters, but unmistakable roadsters. It has been said, and truly, that a new era has dawned upon the breeders of horses in New England, when two such representatives as "Thatcher" and "Lance," grandsires of the renowned "Mambrino Chief," stand at the great centre of the metropolis for the benefit of those wishing to raise fine stock, where mares can be sent with so little trouble and expense. "MUSIC."

SPECIAL NOTICES

A NEW CAMPAIGN.

As Summer time has passed away,
And Autumn has come round again,
We to the people wish to say—
We're ready for a "*New Campaign*:"
Our shelves and counters filled with goods,
'T will do the people good to see;
others. The recent famous papers by Profs. Tyndall and Huxley, before the British Science Association, are included. The short criticisms and notices in the Editors table, and the Miscellany, are brief sketches which give valuable hints. The work deserves a most extensive circulation. A. Williams & Co., corner of Washington and School streets, have it.

☞ The *Lech Club*, or the Mysteries of the Catskills, by George W. Owen, is full of the most humorous and entertaining writing, which is strung on a most intricate plot. While the leading purpose seems to be to show up the dishonest practices of men in public, and also in private positions, the author strikes out into a bold, new, unique vein of romance; and while some hard facts are constantly being presented, the reader is led on from scene to scene with unflagging interest. Many of the scenes are highly dramatic, and the style is racy and vigorous, set off by novel and striking thought. Lee & Shepard.

☞ *The Song Monarch*, published by Oliver Ditson & Co., Boston, music publishers, is a fine collection of secular and sacred music, compiled by H. R. Palmer and L. O. Emerson for singing schools, academies, choirs, clubs, &c. It is handsomely printed, and contains a great variety of songs, glees, anthems, choruses, &c., many of which can be found only in this collection.

☞ *Old and New* for October, under the able editorship of Rev. Edward E. Hale, one of the most eminent divines and scholars in New England, nobly sustains its well earned reputation. Mr. Hale's zeal and enthusiasm calls to his assistance writers of great ability, and the whole is pervaded with the qualities which so highly distinguish its conductor. Roberts Bros., Boston.

☞ *The General Statutes Supplement for* 1874, is just issued from the press of Wright & Potter, State Printers, and embraces the Acts supplementary to the Massachusetts General Statutes, with Marginal Notes, References to former Laws repealed or affected thereby, with a copious and valuable index uniform with the General Statutes. It is published by the Commonwealth, and ably edited by Hon. William A. Richardson and Hon. Geo. F. Sanger. Its size is double that of last year's volume, making 200 pages and upwards, and its value will readily commend it to the legal profession, and others interested. The Secretary of the Commonwealth, through his official proclamation, fixes the price at 75 cents.

☞ The *Medical Eclectic*, published in New York, is devoted to Reform in Medicine, Science and Literature. It is published once in two months, and is a fresh and vigorous publication.

☞ *Harper's Magazine* for October, has its customary wealth of pictorial illustrations, and one knows not which to admire the most, the interest and entertainment of the articles, or the beauty and elegance of the engravings which serve to illustrate the letter press. An Emigrant's Story, Decorative Art and Architecture in England, Sketch of Portsmouth, Isle of Shoals, Whaling, are the chief features of this month. The number and variety of its articles furnish a rich fund of entertainment. The Editor's Easy Chair, Literary Record, Scientific Record, and Editor's Drawer, present a great range and variety of humorous, entertaining and instructive gossip, which make those departments distinguishing features of *Harpers*. Received by A. Williams & Co.

☞ The *Eclectic Magazine* for October, as its name implies, selects the best articles that can be found in the whole mass of current foreign periodicals, principally from the English monthlies. This number has a fine portrait in steel of President Noah Parter, of Yale College, accompanied with a sketch of his life and work. The Eclectic is adapted to the large class of readers who wish to be posted up in some convenient form in all the best of foreign literature. Published by E. R. Pelton, New York. Received by A. Williams & Co., 135 Washington street.

☞ *Godey's Lady's Book* for October, shines with its elegant fashion plates, its patterns and designs for hats, garments, and domestic and fancy work, presenting a collection unequalled for its taste and originality. The literary department of Godey's is always rich and entertaining, and is furnished by some of the best known and most popular writers.

☞ The *Nursery* for October, published by John L. Shorey, Boston, is a captivating number of this popular magazine for young children. The stories and the truly beautiful pictures furnish an unfailing source of enjoyment for an untold number of infants, and it is universally admitted to be an excellent educator of the tender age for which it is intended. It accustoms the eye to the most simple and at the same time beautifully executed pictures, and thus cultivates the growing taste. For a book for the young it is unsurpassed.

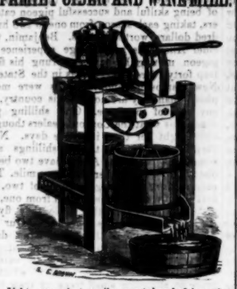
☞ The *Science of Health* for October, published by S. R. Wells, New York, has a variety of important and very instructive articles and essays on subjects connected with diet, clothing, disease, medicines, &c., which cannot fail to be of great value to the community. Every family should take such a magazine, and this will be found to cover a wide range of topics.

☞ The *Edinburgh Review for July* is republished with the other British Reviews, by the Leonard Scott Publishing Company, 41 Barclay Street, New York. The number contains a list of excellent articles by the best ability of England and Scotland—Ocean Warfare; The Speaker's Bible; Nasmyth's Physical History of the Moon; Mosley's Life and Death of Barnevelt; Hall's Modern English; the Canon of Beauty in Greek Art; Guizot's History of France; Journal of Henry Cockburn, and an article on the Icelandic Dictionary.

☞ *The Schoolmaster's Trunk*, published by James R. Osgood & Co., Boston, is a little volume by Mrs. A. M. Diaz, of collected papers published in "Hearth and Home," embodying observations made from actual life by a teacher residing in a country village. Full of original thought and character painting.

New Advertisements.

THE NATIONAL
FAMILY CIDER AND WINE MILL.



Light, convenient, easily operated and of low price (unequalled, and recommended the best in use for Apples, Grapes, Berries, &c. Constructed on entirely new principles, combining both features of grating and crushing, by which a large percentage of juice is obtained.

MADE ONLY BY
AMES PLOW COMPANY,
Quincy Hall, Boston, and
53 Beekman St., New York.
Also for sale by WHITTEMORE BROTHERS, 34 Merchants Row, Boston. oc3-1t

FROM THE
BOSTON DAILY GLOBE.
SEPTEMBER, 1874.

Speaking of the Mechanics' Fair now being held at Quincy and Faneuil Halls, it says:—

"In Section X., the proprietors of 'Oak Hall,' G. W. Simmons & Son, have in operation machines capable of cutting nearly a thousand garments daily—a simple attachment for doing the work of many hands in making button holes; sewing machines run by new application of steam power, and all the requisite machinery of a first class clothing manufactory. The cloth-cutting machine, a most ingeniously constructed piece of mechanism, works by steam, cutting from ten to twenty thicknesses of woolen goods at a time, smoothly and evenly, the knife guided by the operator, gliding swiftly through the cloth. Two hundred yards can be traversed in a minute, and the whole apparatus is as remarkable for its simplicity as for its completeness. Then comes the machine for cutting trimmings. From thirty to ninety thicknesses of cambric or other materials are cut (the patterns being used as in shoe work), packed by sizes and bound ready for use when wanted. The button-hole machine, a very ingenious device, is a small, compact affair, occupying space not more than six inches square. It does its work in a neat and uniform manner, and can be attached to any sewing machine for a trifling sum. All the cumbersome and expensive button-hole machines now in use are superseded by this little affair, which originated in 'Oak Hall,' as did the two machines before mentioned. It is in operation on the 'Hemmagon' machine (which is now commanding great attention) and is applicable to all. This machinery is in almost constant use, and at rests great trouble, as we are told in their praise of 'Oak Hall's' enterprise. Be sure you do not fail to see that portion of Section X. which contains the 'machinery used in manufacturing clothing at Oak Hall.' It can do, you will miss a very interesting portion of the exhibition."

When you visit Boston examine the complete stock of GENTLEMEN'S and CHILDREN'S CLOTHING at
"OAK HALL,"
32 to 38 North Street,
BOSTON.

JUST RECEIVED,
A NEW INVOICE
—OF—
PURE SALT FOR BUTTER!
Double Refined English Dairy and Table
SALT,
in 15, 25, 50 and 100 lb bags.
SALT OF ALL KINDS, Wholesale and Retail, for sale by
EDWARD OAKES WAITT,
(Successor to JAMES OAKES and EDWARD OAKES & Co.,)
SALT CURERS,
49 Long Wharf, Boston.
oc3-4t

GOOD AND SAFE INVESTMENT.

The Grand Rapids, Newaygo and Lake Shore Railroad Co.'s
FIRST MORTGAGE EIGHT PER CENT. BONDS.
FOR SALE BY
J. W. CONVERSE & C. C. CONVERSE,
Room H, 51 State St., First Floor.
Jly26-26t

GRAFTON MINERAL
INSECT DESTROYER.

THIS article has been *carefully and thoroughly tested* in the past *five years by thousands of farmers* and others with perfect success as an *insect exterminator* on vegetables, vines, shrubbery, fruit trees, &c. It has also been successfully used on tobacco, to *destroy the worm and improve the growth and color of the plant.* This Mineral has also been applied on hop plants with like favorable results.

☞ For sale in small packages, and by the barrel, ton, or car load.

PARKER & GANNETT,
GENERAL AGENTS,
49 North Market Street, and
46 Merchants Row, Boston.
Send for Descriptive Pamphlets. my9-tf

THE
CANKER WORM SCOURGE.
Mathews' Patent Tree Protector
the only reliable exterminator in the market. Will last for years and cannot get out of order.

I have applied the above to more than thirty thousand trees, with perfect success. Having largely increased my facilities for carrying on the business, I am prepared to fill all orders. Now is the time to apply them and be sure of stopping the fall run.

Send for circulars and testimonials, to
S. H. MICKER,
au15-tf Wakefield, Mass.

Take Notice.

Farm for sale in Westminster, valuable for Hay, Wood and Timber. Also, one of 71 acres in Leominster, well located and very desirable; crops can now be seen, which will tell the truth. Letters, with stamp, addressed to T. D. WOOD, North Leominster, Mass., promptly answered. sep5-tf

Valuable Farm and Vineyard,
TO LEASE FOR FIVE OR TEN YEARS.
IN VIRGINIA.

214 acres of land, 16 miles S. E. from Charlottesville, Va., 4 miles from James River Canal, 150 acres cleared and adapted to grass and clover—6 acres in vineyard and in full bearing—2 acres in young Peach and Apple Orchard. House 2 Barns, good Garden, Shrubbery in yard; Vineyard will yield 2 to 3000 gallons Wine annually; under good culture. Grapes can be shipped by rail to New York in 24 hours.

Terms, $900 per year; $200 in improvements; $700 payable semi-annually, in advance. Property belongs to *minors*, and can be leased to good tenant for ten years.
Address H. MANOAH PRICE,
au22-17t Antioch, Va.

For Sale.

JONES HILL, situated in the centre of Princeton (a beautiful site for a country residence) containing 100 acres, 75 of which is the best pasture in Worcester county. 25 acres (in one piece) of prime upland mowing all of it is cut with a machine.
JOHN BROOKS,
au2-tf Princeton, Mass.

Choice Fowls and Eggs.

PARTRIDGE COCHINS, DARK BRAHMA, PLYMOUTH ROCK, and 22 other varieties of Fowls and Eggs, for sale by
R. R. PERKINS
Enclose stamp 228 Essex St., Salem, Mass.
and send for Circular. jan17-tf

Premium Ayrshires.

FOR SALE, at KENDALL'S STOCK FARM, Woburn, Mass., COWS, HEIFERS, YEARLINGS AND CALVES, from the best milking families in Scotland. Apply to
J. R. KENDALL & CO.,
and tf No. 19 Doane St., Boston, or at the Farm.

Wanted.

THE HIGHEST MARKET PRICE will be paid for **100,000 Bushels of CIDER APPLES,** delivered on cars. Apply to or address
J. HOLBROOK & SONS,
sep19-4t* Sherborn, Mass.

Shorthorn Bulls.

A FEW CHOICE ANIMALS for sale at FAIRVIEW STOCK FARM, Fitchburg, Mass.
sep19-3t A. & E. WHITMAN.

Dairywoman Wanted.

A WOMAN who can superintend the making of butter and cheese, and who is willing to do housework, can hear of a good situation at the West, by applying in person to EBENEZER GAY, 44 Court street, Boston.
sep26-3t

Upland Cranberry Vines.

A FEW HUNDRED of UPLAND CRANBERRY PLANTS or sale, for sale at $1 00 per hundred.
GEORGE SPEAR,
sep26-tf Quincy, Mass.

10 TO $1000 INVESTED IN WALL STREET often leads to fortune. No liability. Our new pamphlet entitled "The Art of Speculation" sent free. J. HICKLING & CO., Bankers and Stock Brokers, 72 Broadway, New York, Box 1056. Stocks bought and sold on moderate margin. sep19-13t

THE RANDALL
PULVERIZING HARROW

A Complete and Perfect Working Implement.

It Thoroughly Pulverizes the Soil by Cutting, Lifting and Turning it Over.

It Cannot be Clogged.

The self-working devices of the Randall Harrow consist of two series of concave Plate Wheels, with sharp cutting edges set obliquely to the line of draft.
For sale, wholesale and retail, by
E. E. LUMMUS & CO.,
No. 20 South Market St., Boston.
Send for Circular. au29-4t

SMITH BROS.,
TEA, GROCERY AND FLOUR
WAREHOUSE,
73, 75 & 77 Blackstone St., Boston.

We would call the attention of the residents of Boston and vicinity, to our new TEA AND GROCERY WAREHOUSE, where will be found an extensive stock of all goods generally kept in a First Class Store. Making as we do TEAS AND FLOUR A SPECIALTY, we can offer you inducements not held out by any other House in Boston, as regards price and quality. We would call special attention to our

Flour Price List:

Good Family Flour,	$9,00
Extra,	$9,50
Choice,	$10,00
Our own brands of the very best St. Louis,	$10,50

We warrant and deliver the above Flour, and if not proving satisfactory in every particular will be removed from your house without expense to you and the money promptly refunded.

We are also offering for the low price of 50 cts. per pound, a very fine flavored OOLONG or MIXED TEA, on which we defy competition. Other grades as per Price-List.

TEAS.

Good Oolong	50 cts	Good Japan	60 cts
Extra	60 ct.	Choice	60 cts
Very Choice	75 cts	Very Choice	75 ct.

ENGLISH BREAKFAST.

Good Eng. Breakfast	50 cts	Good Hyson	50 cts
Extra	60 cts	Extra	65 cts
Very Choice	75 cts	Very Choice	75 cts

GUNPOWDER TEA ..... $1.00.

COFFEE.

Rio ..... 25 to 32 cts | Java ..... 33 to 38 cts

MOLASSES.

We are putting up for family use a very fine PORTO RICO MOLASSES, in 5 gallon kegs, ..at $2.50 a keg.
SILVER DRIP SYRUP, in 5 gallon kegs .. $3.00 "
To those living at a distance we would say, orders sent by mail to the amount of $25.00, will be delivered by rail or express, free of charge, C. C. D. Remember the name and number.
SMITH BROS.,
73, 75 & 77 Blackstone St., Boston.
sep5-8t

FOUNTAIN STEAM WASHER.
Thousands Already Sold.

Price $3.00.

The Fountain Steam Washer saves over half the hard work—that is, a washing that it takes two hours to do in the ordinary way can be done in one hour with the Washer. 2d.—Does not require half the quantity of soap to do the washing, for the steam penetrates through the fabric. 3d.—It saves one-half the fuel, as it takes but half the time. 4th.—The clothes will last twice as long, because we use no wash board. 5th.—The steam whitens the clothes, as it has long ago been proved to be the most powerful agent for cleansing soiled linen, and when applied through the Fountain Steam Washer will do the hard work of the washing for an ordinary family in one hour's time.

N. B.—We are well aware of the existing prejudice against Washing Machines; therefore, we or our agents offer you a trial of the machine, and will refund the money in every case after a fair trial of one week if you are not satisfied. They are made to fit any size wash boiler In ordering, send length and width of boiler.

Liberal discount to Agents. State and County Rights for a le.
FOUNTAIN STEAM WASHER CO.,
sep12-13t **5 Tremont St., Boston.**

"MAMBRINO LANCE."

THIS FINE STALLION will make the season of 1874, at

"MYSTIC PARK," MEDFORD, MASS.

TERMS.—$100 at time of service. Mares not proving in foal, can be returned the following season without charge.

Every care will be taken of Mares to guard against accidents, but they must be at the owner's risk.

"Lance" will be five years old next May, is full sixteen hands high, and weighs about 1130 pounds, is black, and of great bone and substance. He was purchased by his present owner of Dr. L. Herr of Lexington, Kentucky.

PEDIGREE.

Lance's sire was Dr. Herr's "Mambrino Patchen," own brother to the celebrated "Lady Thorne," sire of "Topgallant."

"Lance's" first dam, "Lucy Garnett," by "Endorser;" by "Wagner" out of "Fanny O," by imported "Margrave," "Fanny O" out of "Miss Lavender," by "Lance" by "American Eclipse" 2d dam "Lucy Fowler" by imported "Albion" 3d dam by imported "Leviathan" 4th dam by "Pacolet" 5th dam by "Topgallant" 6th dam by "Gallatin," &c. &c.

Among "Mambrino Patchen's" own young plants and views are "*Bessie's Bertie*," who at two years old trotted a full mile in 2.41 and a two mile heat in 5.24; "*Baron Rothschild*" at two years old trotted 2 mile in 2.53; "Scout," filly, 1 year old, 1872, trotted 2 mile heat, 1st mile 2.06, 2d mile, 2.02—4.07. "Scout," filly, 2 years old, 1873—1st heat, 2.44; 2d do, 2.39; 3d do, 1.40; 4th do, 2.38½.

Dr. Herr says of Mambrino Lance—"For size, style, speed, mechanical movements, breeding, temper and quality as a trotter and stock horse, I consider him the best and most valuable stallion colt I ever have seen."

There are, without doubt, a greater number of Mambrino Patchen's colts trotting fast of their ages, and selling for higher prices, on the average, than the get of any horse of his age.

AUGUSTUS TUFTS,
feb14-tf **Malden, Mass.**

BLACK FEARNAUGHT.

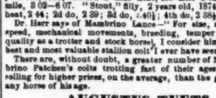
THIS promising young Stallion will make the season of 1874 for a limited number of mares, at

WINSHIP STOCK FARM,
WOBURN, MASS.

For terms and pedigree, apply on the premises.
Also, BOARD FOR HORSES all seasons of the year.
je30-1f

WHEELER & BLAISDELL,
(SUCCESSORS TO WM. WHEELER.)
Civil and Agricultural Engineers.

Give their personal attention to Land Drainage, River Improvements and Irrigation; furnish plans, estimates and all necessary instructions, and provide skilled superintendence.
Orders will also be received for



to be furnished at the lowest current rates. Any and all parties contemplating the improvement of land or any character or extent for any purpose by drainage or otherwise, are cordially invited to consult with us in person or by mail.
Offices: 33 Pemberton Sq., Boston, and Concord, Mass. je13-tf

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN & NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE--BOSTON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1874.

The Poet's Corner.

Written expressly for the Massachusetts Ploughman.

A MAIDEN'S PRAYER.

By open window at twilight,
I sit 'mid shadows gray,
And far all life's excitement
Seems passed from me away.
The wind is rudely swaying
The shuddering, dusty leaves,
Even the chirp sounds mournful
Of swallows in the eaves.
The sea looks dull and misty,
Faintly its sullen tone
Comes to me o'er the meadows,
As I listen here alone.

Oh, life, what is thy value?
Oh, world, where is thy charm?
These moments, sad and gloomy,
Fill me with vague alarm.

Have I the power within me
To use this life aright?
Have I the strength, the courage,
Bravely to face the fight?
Calmly the ranks to enter,
Staunchly to struggle on,
To reach the end victorious
Feeling the battle won?

God grant that time may bring me
The strength to do my part,
To press on through life's battle
With earnest, steadfast heart.

Go I give me trust and patience;
Oh, keep me from despair!
By Thy love, make life's burdens
Seem trifles, light as air.

The twilight's gloom is ended,
Gone are the shadows drear;
Sweetly the night descending
Breathes softly, "Peace be here!"

Newport, R. I.

Ladies' Department.

WANTED--A HOUSEKEEPER.

Archibald Lester sat before his mother's writing desk, with an elaborate display of writing materials beneath his eyes, and a perplexed expression within them. These eyes were small, twinkling, shy, shrewd, grayish balls, set in fair, unwhiskered face: and the nose and mouth below them were almost as shrewd as they. The perplexity appeared to extend to his neck, for he held it uncomfortably on the side, and looked very much like a bullfinch preparing to sing. Indeed, during his school days, which, happily, were not numerous, he had received the appellation of Bully—not from his sidetorturing propensities, but from this one sided proclivity.

As he sat, his pen between his finger and thumb, and his eyes upturned, as if in contemplation of a fly on the green and gold paper, he might almost have been pronounced as lost "in maiden meditation fancy free," for his face was as smooth as a girl's, and he had never been in love. Yet he was fast verging on forty. The fact was, that hitherto his affections had been centered in his mother. She had been so devoted to him that he had found no other woman indispensable to him. But he had lost her, and began to wonder what sort of thing a wife would be. It was this consideration which caused his perplexity.

In spite of nickname and neck, Archibald was not a bad fellow. He had plodded diligently through clerkhood to merchanthood; was liked by his male friends, and had been a dutiful son. It was not his fault, and possibly not his misfortune, that he had never been in love.

At last he dashed into a sheet of note paper, and having written a few lines, in a round, clear hand, tore it up. He began again, tore up another and another, till some half a dozen were confided to the waste paper basket. He finally condensed his ideas into three lines, which he read and re-read meditatively, then muttered:

"If I like her, I can marry her."

What he had written was as follows: "Wanted, a sensible lady housekeeper, about thirty, by a gentleman not far from that age. Money no object. Address A. L., postoffice, Cornhill, E. C."

He went from his fine house in Bedford square to the *Times* office, and left his advertisement; thence to the postoffice indicated, and requested all answers to be sent to his offices in the city.

He knew these would be numerous, but had not imagined they would come in shoals. He filled a portmanteau with them, and took them to Bedford square. Having primed himself with a good dinner, he turned them out on the dining room table, muttering, "Are there so many women about thirty in the world? One can't marry them all."

The letters were specimens of every kind of composition and caligraphy. Some were well, some ill written; some correctly, some incorrectly spelled; some long, some short. Many contained minute descriptions of the personal charms and mental qualifications of the writers; and of these not a few enshrined photographs, which the overwhelmed Archibald examined with a chuckle of satisfaction, never having ventured to look so closely to a woman before. Others concluded with an entreaty for an interview or reply. "Impossible!" he said, aghast at the idea. "I will insert an advertisement of 'waited' when I have made up my mind."

But how could he make up his mind? He would fix on the prettiest photograph? No; beauty was but skin deep. The best handwriting? The spelling was bad. The most elegant composition? The writing was illegible. The longest letter? Oh, dear, no! his mother had written briefly, and to no purpose. This decided him. He would answer the shortest. He picked it out from among the rest. It was as follows: "Mrs. Moreton begs to apply for A. L.'s situation. Myrtle Cottage, Martinsborough."

"A widow. Well, a widow might be best, for she would know what to say, which he did not." He set this laconic epistle aside with the photographs, and gathering together the other letters, he piled them up in and beneath the empty grate. Then he struck a light and kindled a funeral pyre.

These gas burners blazed down upon him as he again set to his task. Consuming more paper and ink than was necessary, as most people do, he produced the following line: "A. L., will be at Myrtle Cottage, Friday, at 5 P. M."

Before Friday came, Archibald wished the female sex extinct, for he had never slept so badly in his life as since the letters, and had seen nothing but visions of women in flames, with pinions in their hands.

Nevertheless, he dressed himself carefully that morning, and started early. He reached Martinsborough at the appointed time, and found Myrtle Cottage easily. It was a small, rickety house, and he looked in vain for myrtles. The garden was, however, full of autumnal flowers.

He was asked to walk in at once, and the person who opened the door soon requested him to be seated, remained in the small room into which he was shown. It was Mrs. Moreton. He could hardly speak or look at her, and had never felt so shy before. She stood a few moments, awaiting his words, but hearing none, sat down and looked at him. After a short silence, she began the conversation in a low voice.

"You are A. L., I presume, sir?"

"Yes."

"You advertised for a housekeeper; I am the Mrs. Moreton who answered your advertisement."

"Oh, indeed! I suppose so."

"I would go for a very small salary, if I might have my little girl with me."

"To be sure—to be sure. Half a dozen if you like."

There was a silence as in a Quaker's meeting. She was considering him with a nervous twitching of her features, while he was looking at his hat and stick.

"I can give no reference, but I would do my best," she continued, at last.

"The best is always good enough for me," he said, darting up a twinkling glance, and letting down his lids again.

What did he think of her? He thought she looked old for thirty, but so must he, as he was nearly forty. Yet he was not displeased with what he saw. She was a gentle, ladylike-looking woman, with pale face, soft gray eyes, and pensive mouth. But then she had perfectly gray hair! He knew that men worried their brains until their hair turned gray before its time, but he had not remarked this sign of a fast age in women. Indeed, he knew little of the sex. She was dressed in faded gray silk, and had faded ribbons on her head. Her hands were tightly clasped on her knee, and they were very white. Archibald thought she seemed as frightened as himself, and wondered what sort of wife she would make. He continued to stammer out the words, "I advertised—in short I advertised for——" but could get no further. She assented mildly, and waited hopelessly. At last, she took courage to say that she believed she could give him satisfaction, for she had been accustomed to superintend an establishment, and was willing to take any position he desired. He thought this was to the point, and wondered whether she would propose for him. If so, should he accept her? He certainly wanted a wife and not a housekeeper, yet he could not exactly assure himself that he had fallen in love at first sight, as he somehow expected to do. A last he said boldly,

"Madam, I advertised for—as you are a widow, you should understand."

"Sir, I am not a widow. I trust my husband is alive."

"Oh, indeed!"

Archibald was much relieved, for he had not calculated on the difficulty of the work he had intended to perform. He grew more at his ease, and by degrees confided to Mrs. Moreton, that having lost his mother, he really had wanted a wife. That lady said, rather indignantly, "Then you should not have advertised for a housekeeper, sir. It is a sad disappointment to me."

Conscious of wrong doing, Archibald requested permission to reconsider the matter, and it was agreed that he should return to Martinsboro', sleep there, and call on Mrs. Moreton again the following afternoon. They both spent half the night in consideration, and came to the same conclusion: that it was a wife, and not a housekeeper, that he wanted.

He returned punctually the following day, and as he walked through the rickety gate and up the little garden, he saw a lady, and a little girl in white, digging at a flower bed. They did not appear to notice him, so he ventured to look at them. He remarked little but the white dresses and a couple of broad, shabby straw hats.

Mrs. Moreton was almost less at her ease than she had been the previous day. Neither she nor Leslie could resolve about the housekeeper. They sat opposite one another, and talked over the matter, but could come to no decision. At last a ringing child's laugh echoed from the garden, and a clear voice exclaimed, "You naughty Poppy?" Mrs. Moreton jumped up and looked out of the window.

"It is my little girl and my sister, sir. Edith! Poppy! I want you."

In came a bright, handsome, dark-eyed young lady of may be five and twenty, with a fresh rose in her dress; and a laughing, blue-eyed beauty of five, with a very dirty frock. What a picture for a Coleba in search of a wife! They started at the sight of a stranger, and he bowed awkwardly.

Mrs. Moreton had only told her sister that A. L. could not make up his mind and was to call again. She had been busy with plans, and having a headache, or feigning one, had asked Edith to keep Poppy employed in the garden. Women are wonderfully diplomatic.

"Is it A. L.?" whispered Edith, for Mrs. Moreton had not asked Archibald his name.

"Yes," he said courageously. "My name is Lester."

"Mr. Lester will stay and take some tea, Edith," said Mrs. Moreton. "Will you make it?"

He declined, apologized, and was overruled; and Edith and Poppy disappeared. Mrs. Moreton employed the interview in eloquent praises of her sister.

Archibald was scarcely conscious that the tea was poor, the milk blue, the butter well scraped on the bread. He only saw a large vase of roses on the table; and presiding at the tea tray one of the loveliest women in the world. If she would but become his wife! what a happy life they might lead together! What an adornment she would be to his home! What a bright sunbeam to its now silent, cheerless rooms! He was a poet at heart, and throughout the meal the words of another and better known poet kept ringing through his brain: "A thing of beauty is a joy forever." Mrs. Moreton would now and then glance from him to Edith; but the one was generally looking into his teacup, and the other at Poppy, whose large eyes and dimpled mouth were widely opened on the guest.

"Poppy," whispered Edith, "don't stare so; it's not polite."

"I must, auntie, the gentleman is so funny," retorted Poppy. "Why doesn't he talk more?"

Edith pulled her long curls gently, and glanced gravely at Poppy, who only laughed. Archibald looked up, and saw the by-play. What a good, frank face Edith had, and how pretty she shook her head at the child.

"You must forgive Poppy, Mr. Lester," said Mrs. Moreton. "She is so young and sees so few strangers."

"I suppose so," ejaculated Archibald, and Poppy laughed more merrily than ever, while Edith tried to frown her down.

"Poppy," said Mrs. Moreton, "you are not a good girl and must leave the room." And the child began to cry.

"No, no! come here, Poppy," said Archibald, rousing himself with an effort and taking half a crown from his pocket. "For sweeties, you know."

Poppy's tears were dried in an instant, and she ran for the half crown, which she seized and carried to her aunt Edith. Putting her arms around her neck, she whispered audibly enough for Archibald to hear, "Now you can buy mamma's medicine." Archibald looked up in earnest, and saw that Edith's face had turned crimson, and that tears were in Mrs. Moreton's eyes.

"You have not thanked Mr. Lester, Poppy," said Edith, disengaging herself from the child.

Poppy's arms were around Archibald's neck so suddenly that he was surprised into straightening it. He blushed as deeply as Edith had done.

"Have you got another?" whispered Poppy, to the annoyance of her elders.

His ready hand was in his pocket, but Edith rose hastily and took Poppy from the room. Mrs. Moreton apologized for her child, and Lester said, "Not at all, not at all." He sat some time in silence, watching the door, but they did not reappear. At last he said,

"I suppose your sister's not also a widow?"

Mrs. Moreton suppressed a smile as she answered in the negative. Archibald began to discover what love at first sight really meant; he had never been so much attracted by a young lady before.

"What a charming wife she would make!" he said. "Do you think——" He paused. He was about to add, "she would have me on so short an acquaintance?" but he felt the question would not come out. He dreaded the answer.

Mrs. Moreton jumped at the expressed portion of it, and stumbling much in her reply, gave him to understand that she did not know, but she would ask her.

"By no means," he said; but still craved permission to call again. As soon as he was gone, Edith came back.

"Have you got the situation?" she asked eagerly. "No! then what shall we do?"

"Dear Edith, I don't think I should suit him; but you might. It strikes me he wants a wife more than a housekeeper, and he seems a nice, amiable man."

"Well," cried Edith, flushing with pain and vexation, "I did not think you would barter me for bread! If I am to be sold, let me go into a market where I may have a chance of a better husband than that. I will work for you and Poppy, but I will never be married for you."

"Oh, Edith, don't be cruel. You know, you said the other day you would marry a chimney sweeper, if only you could get enough to eat! I am thinking of you and not myself; for now that we have spent all your money, I cannot bear that you should want. Perhaps this Mr. Lester may be a good, generous man, Edith. He seems so to me. Suppose he were to take a fancy to you."

"I certainly should never take a fancy to him; we have scarcely spoken to one another, and, as it appears that he has made a fool of himself—and you, too, apparently—I see no reason why we should give him another moment's thought. I wish you would be a little more matter-of-fact and less imaginative; though to be sure it is matter-of-fact enough to marry a man simply because he happens to be rich."

While Edith was thus giving vent to her indignation, Archibald was making himself comfortable at his hotel. No man was less shy than he with men, and he asked the waiter all sorts of questions concerning Mrs. Moreton. He learnt that she was a lady of good family who had married badly, and whose husband had left her, having first squandered such fortune as she had. She was very poor, and had been, it was supposed for some time dependent on her sister, Miss Sumner, who had inherited a few hundred pounds from her mother, the widow of a clergyman, and was as nice and clever a young lady as ever lived."

Primed with this intelligence, Archibald Lester called at Myrtle Cottage the following morning, and was again received by Mrs. Moreton. He had resolved to be as bold as a lion, and to make Miss Sumner's acquaintance in the orthodox way; but no sooner was he within her abode, than his courage failed him.

"Have asked my sister," began trembling Mrs. Moreton.

"Oh, indeed!"

"She says"——a pause.

"Yes—what does she say?" interjected he.

"I am sorry to say, that she says, 'No,'" said she.

"Madam! I did not mean to assume——"

"Oh, sir!" interrupted Mrs. Moreton, "if only you wanted a housekeeper! I should have been so glad of the situation. Why did you advertise."

"Why, indeed! I fear I have made a blunder."

"And Edith would make such a wife, if you only knew each other better."

"I dare say. Where is she?"

"Would you go to her yourself? She won't come to you."

"What could I say?"

"Whatever you thought best."

Here Poppy burst into the room exclaiming, "I want another big silver penny. I told auntie I would come, and she tore my frock."

Edith was in the passage, whither she had followed Poppy, and Archibald caught sight of her. He rose and bowed, less awkwardly than might have been expected. Mrs. Moreton said, "Come in, Edith," and, having no excuse, she went in.

"I will be your wife if you will give me another big penny," said the avaricious Poppy. "Auntie says she won't."

This time Mrs. Moreton seized upon her and dragged her away, just as the coveted half crown was within her reach. To Edith's horror and anger, she shut the door after her, as if to deaden the cries of the disappointed Poppy.

"I am quite ashamed of her and of my sister," said the indignant Edith. "I am surprised that you, Mr. Lester, if you are a gentleman——".

He certainly was a gentleman, though of a peculiar fashion, and this "if" aroused his pride. He began to look upon this handsome, decided young lady as a sort of brother merchant to whom he could speak as if he were on 'Change. He actually faced her, and in doing so his neck straightened and his quick eyes twinkled. He was not by any means bad looking when at his ease and animated, and he found her more enchanting than ever. She had such frank, beautiful hazel eyes, and such a clear, open mouth.

"I hope—I am—a sort of a gentleman——" he said, hesitating, in spite of his best intentions.

"Then why did you advertise for a housekeeper, and take my sister, and, I daresay, many others, in?"

"Many? A portmanteau full. I burnt 'em all. Their letters, I mean."

"I wish you had burnt mine—my sister's, I should say."

"It was too much to the purpose. Are you always so short?"

"I am considered tall. Have you anything more to say, Mr. Lester?"

There was a business tone in Edith that set him really at his ease at last. He began to understand that he must cut a sorry figure before so sensible and spirited a girl, so he tried to explain.

"I suppose I really have been foolish, but you see, Miss Edith——"

"My name is Sumner, Mr. Lester."

"I beg your pardon, Miss Sumner," he continued, shy again. "But you see I lost my mother, and can't get over it. I am not a lady's man, yet one wants a woman to see to one's house. So, I advertised, and—and—I thought if—if—I liked the respondent—I might—in short, I vainly supposed I could replace my mother."

Edith felt inclined to laugh, but there was a tone in his voice that struck a corresponding note in her heart.

"That, one can never do," she said.

"I suppose not," he returned, glancing into her eyes.

He seemed about to go, so she volunteered to call her sister, and brought the tete-a-tete to a close.

"Did you accept him?" were Mrs. Moreton's first words when he was gone.

"He never asked me," Edith replied.

"Then what shall we do, and where shall we go?" said Mrs. Moreton, bursting into tears.

"Have you lost all faith in God, Louisa?" asked Edith.

A few hours afterwards a parcel arrived directed to Miss Poppy Moreton. It contained the biggest doll procurable in Martinsborough, and a well sealed letter. While Poppy was dancing with delight her doll in her arms, her mother and aunt broke open the letter. A bank of England note for ten pounds fell out, together with half a crown; and the following words:

"Dear Poppy:

"I send the big silver penny, because you offered to be my wife. You are the only lady living who would make such a proposal, and you must not forget it. I shall not. You or your mamma can do what you will with the piece of paper.

"Your friend,

"Archibald Lester."

"I will take the money back directly," said Edith. "It is too much impertinence. Does he think to buy us?"

Vainly Mrs. Moreton tried to oppose this, saying the ten pounds were Poppy's. Edith got possession of it and went to the hotel. Mr. Lester had left by express. As she returned home she resolved she would send back the bank note to London. Her sister reminded her that they did not know the address, and, therefore, might as well make use of his present. Poverty is a sore pride tamer, so she was obliged to yield.

Archibald's matrimonial adventure had been unsuccessful, and he did not advertise again for a housekeeper. He put the curt note he had received from Mrs. Moreton into his mother's writing desk, looked at it occasionally and thought of Edith and Poppy more than of Mrs. Moreton, for they were more to his taste. He was even guilty of a sigh as he remembered his folly and wished he had never seen Myrtle Cottage. Still he occasionally amused himself with writing and tearing up more sheets of paper; but it was many months before he posted another letter. He took to going into society and to making himself agreeable to the ladies; but when he fancied he was succeeding, Poppy's amused "I must, auntie, the gentleman is so funny!" sounded on the ear of his memory; and he wondered if they were laughing at him.

One evening he took out Edith's laconic epistle and laid it before him. He thought of the brave girl who had spent all her money for her sister, yet would not marry for the mere sake of riches. He wished he could help her, but how? At length an idea came to him—an inspiration. He cut a ten pound note in two, and sent one-half to Miss Poppy Moreton, reserving the other for despatch on the morrow.

This half note found Poppy very ill. Edith had undertaken a temporary engagement as daily governess, and was absent when it arrived. They were all struggling hard with poverty. It was the first of April, and flash notes from the so called "Bank of Love," were flying about everywhere. Edith had had one, and had put it into the fire. Mrs. Moreton was on the eve of committing Archibald's half note to the flames also, when a call from Poppy stayed her hands. The poor child wanted everything that her friends could not give her, and her only comfort was her big doll, lying with its eyes shut by her side. When Edith came home she spied the letter.

"Another of those silly notes!" said Mrs. Moreton, despondingly. Edith seeing the London post mark, took out the note. She said it looked like a real one. "Impossible," said her sister. "I will find it out," said energetic Edith, and rushed off to the bank.

"It was the half of a Bank of England note, there was no doubt of it," said an admiring clerk: "and if the other half did not arrive he would see if she could get the benefit of the whole." But the other half did arrive, and they joined the twain carefully. Now Mrs. Moreton pressed her hands to her heart, and said she was sure they came from her husband, and were an earnest of future good; but Edith blushed and said nothing. Poppy derived even more benefit than the kind donor had expected from his gift, for she recovered her health.

Strange events happen in life, which people are apt to call chances, but which are properly Providences, inasmuch as they bring to pass what no human foresight could.

A man named Moreton applied to Mr. Lester for a vacant clerkship. He looked a sort of worn out gentleman, who did not promise much work, but he somehow reminded Archibald of Poppy, and he engaged him, giving him an occupation which entailed little or no responsibility. He paid him his salary himself, and finding that he put the greater part of it into a savings bank connected with the establishment, he drew from him that he had a wife and child to whom he intended to send the money. Of course these were Mrs. Moreton and Poppy. Lester told him that he had better take it to them, but Moreton said that he feared the reception he might meet with, as he had not been a good husband or father. Believing him to have been weak and extravagant, rather than profligate, Archibald offered to be the bearer of the money and to see the wife for him. He did not tell him that he had already seen her. Moreton accepted the proposal gratefully, and his benefactor prepared for his journey.

Archibald's heart had never been so fast or agreeably before as when he again started for Myrtle Cottage. As he was not going in search of a wife for himself, but for another man, he felt as brave as a lion. He trod the space between Martinsborough and the cottage so rapidly that he overtook and passed all who had started on the road before him. Near the cottage he met Edith, returning from her daily toil.

"Oh! Miss Edith!" he said, holding out his hand.

She started, but did not snub him by telling him her name was Sumner. On the contrary she said:

"Mr. Lester! I am so glad. Thank you a thousand times. You saved Poppy's life."

Archibald was so overcome that he had not another word to say, so they walked on in silence, he thinking how pale and sad she looked. Mrs. Moreton and Poppy were at the door, and recognising him, greeted him with delight. The cottage looked more shabby than ever, but Edith's flowers still held up their heads. He went in without being asked, telling Mrs. Moreton he wished to speak to her. They sat down as before, he looking at his hat.

"I am come again, you see."

"Oh sir! thank you for Poppy's doll and the enclosure."

"Not at all: not all." A pause.

"I am again come—about—a wife."

"Ah, Mr. Lester! Edith is so hard hearted. I am afraid it is no use."

"You mistake—it is—about you."

"Me! Pray do not insult me. You know I am married."

"Yes; that is why I come."

He was a bad diplomatist. He wanted to break the news, and he stumbled over his own iron.

"Your husband—"

"My husband! Do you know anything of him? Oh! sir, tell me for Heaven's sake!"

Mrs. Moreton laid her hand on his shoulder in her emotion, and he gained courage.

"I am his ambassador. He is in my employment, and was too penitent to come himself."

Mrs. Moreton fell on her knees and clasped Archibald's hands.

"Say it again! Say it again!" she cried.

He said it again, and, not being strong, the sudden news was too much for her and she fainted.

"Miss Edith! come quickly!" resounded through the passage. Was ever ambassadorial bachelor in such a predicament?

Edith was in the room in a moment, and was soon engaged in restoring animation. Archibald left it when he saw that Mrs. Moreton was recovering, wondering at Edith's self command. He went into the other parlor and took up a book. It was a German grammar. He understood German, so he studied that language till he was interrupted by Edith, who, closing the door, said hastily:

"It is the news you have brought true, Mr. Lester?"

"Quite true. And if your sister will forgive the past, there is no reason that they should not be happy again. If he keeps steady I will put him into a better position, so that he may be respectable and able to maintain a wife and child."

Archibald grew fluent enough when speaking of mere business.

"You are indeed our benefactor," said Edith, bursting into tears.

What was to come next? No. Edith did not faint, but recovered herself instantly.

"Is this—your grammar? It is not a good one," said he, taking up the book.

"I am trying to learn the language, that I may teach it," she said.

"I am engaged in teaching, then? Do you like it?"

"I do not dislike it, but I shall lose my engagement when my friends and—employers leave Martinsborough."

"You had better make another."

"I wish I could."

Their eyes met, and it would be difficult to say which colored most.

"I am a blundering, stupid fellow, and I scarcely know what you must think of me," said he. "Have you forgiven the advertisement affair?"

"What would have become of us without it? Your first gift kept a house over our heads; your second saved our darling, and now you bring hope with you. Do you think Mr. Moreton is sincere?"

"He works hard, which is a good sign; and if he comes with me I will give him plenty to do. Nothing like work, Miss Edith, to keep men out of mischief."

"And women too; if my sister had definite employment she would be far happier."

"She says she can keep house. If she and her husband make it up, do you think she would still take charge of mine, and so answer my advertisement after all?"

"How could she, Mr. Lester? Though she would be too happy to remove."

Archibald did not then explain, and, after some further conversation, left them.

A few weeks after his return to London, there was much excitement in his palace of a house in the city, called by him his offices, but once inhabited by his parents. The first floor had been furnished, neither clerks nor servants knew for whom, and its future tenants were expected. Fires and gas blazed up stairs and dispersed the cold of winter and the fog of the city. A good feast was spread in a large comfortable room, and the old housekeeper waited expectant.

Archibald was down stairs in a gloomy office, surrounded by old fashioned furniture, desks, big maps, piles of ledgers, and cobwebs. He professed to be writing, as usual, but was gazing on a spider opposite, as persevering as Bruce's. There was noise enough without, but within all was quiet. At last, among all the cabs, carts, and wagons, he was sure he heard one particular cab stop at the door. There was a bustle in the big hall, and a child's voice rang cheerily through the vaults of the passages.

"I wonder if she is come!" he murmured, getting up and sitting down again; then taking from his pocketbook the copy of one of his laconic epistles, he read it half aloud.

"Dear Miss Edith: Could you answer my advertisement? If so, and if you would try to love such a 'funny gentleman,' come with them. If not, do not come yet awhile for his sake.

Archibald Lester."

"Oh no! she is not come!" he sighed.

He waited more than an hour, then went timidly up his own wide staircase, dimly lighted from the landing, and knocked at a door. As it was opened he was greeted by a sight, gratifying, yet disappointing. Mr. and Mrs. Moreton sat side by side near the blazing fire—Poppy, asleep in her father's arms, her big doll nestled to her little breast. There was no Edith! Alas poor Archibald! his heart sank and he was about to retreat for his sister, yet would not marry for the mere sake of riches. He wished he could help her, but how? At length an idea came to him—an inspiration. He cut a ten pound note in two, and sent one-half to Miss Poppy Moreton, reserving the other for despatch on the morrow.

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Strange events happen in life, which people are apt to call chances, but which are properly Providences, inasmuch as they bring to pass what no human foresight could.

A man named Moreton applied to Mr. Lester for a vacant clerkship. He looked a sort of worn out gentleman, who did not promise much work, but he somehow reminded Archibald of Poppy, and he engaged him, giving him an occupation which entailed little or no responsibility. He paid him his salary himself, and finding that he put the greater part of it into a savings bank connected with the establishment, he drew from him that he had a wife and child to whom he intended to send the money. Of course these were Mrs. Moreton and Poppy. Lester told him that he had better take it to them, but Moreton said that he feared the reception he might meet with, as he had not been a good husband or father. Believing him to have been weak and extravagant, rather than profligate, Archibald offered to be the bearer of the money and to see the wife for him. He did not tell him that he had already seen her. Moreton accepted the proposal gratefully, and his benefactor prepared for his journey.

Archibald's heart had never been so fast or agreeably before as when he again started for Myrtle Cottage. As he was not going in search of a wife for himself, but for another man, he felt as brave as a lion. He trod the space between Martinsborough and the cottage so rapidly that he overtook and passed all who had started on the road before him. Near the cottage he met Edith, returning from her daily toil.

"Oh! Miss Edith!" he said, holding out his hand.

She started, but did not snub him by telling him her name was Sumner. On the contrary she said:

"Mr. Lester! I am so glad. Thank you a thousand times. You saved Poppy's life."

Archibald was so overcome that he had not another word to say, so they walked on in silence, he thinking how pale and sad she looked. Mrs. Moreton and Poppy were at the door, and recognising him, greeted him with delight. The cottage looked more shabby than ever, but Edith's flowers still

Biographical.

GUIZOT.

To the younger men of the present generation the eminent statesman and historian of France is hardly even a name, and now that his long and eventful career has ended there are not many except students who could recall even a few of the incidents that were crowded into his work of diplomacy and literature. And yet from 1814 to 1848, he was a power in his own nation and a great light in European politics. From the time when, in 1806, then but nineteen years old, he entered the world of letters, to when, upon the usurpation of the third Napoleon, he retired to finish in seclusion and repose his eighty-seven years of life, he was an unceasing toiler. Devoted to the idea of a constitutional monarchy, his bent of mind was alike repugnant to the Empire and the Republic. He appeared among the ranks of authors in 1809, and in 1815 he received the appointment of Assistant Professor of History at the Sorbonne. There he had the high moral courage to decline to compliment the great Emperor in his address to the students, and his political opinions had become so prominent that when foreign bayonets established Louis XVIII upon the throne he began his political career as Secretary to the Minister of the Interior. When the imperial lion was uncaged in Elba, he found it expedient to take refuge in Belgium, but with the restoration of 1815 he returned to France, and as Chief Secretary of the Department of Justice labored with the Conservative wing of the Royalist party to counteract the influence of the ultra-monarchists upon the King. But he was unsuccessful and went into retirement, but only to lay the foundations of that liberal organization of which he was the mainstay and leader for a whole generation. His manifestos restored him to public position, which he held until, in 1820, wearied and disgusted with the absolutism of the Government, he withdrew from the service, and for the next few years gave himself up entirely to literary labor. He raised the Sorbonne to its highest eminence as an educational institution, and wrote his three great historical works, which will always remain as the text books of students. His liberalism provoked the hatred of the aristocrats who surrounded Charles X., until he was even interdicted from lecturing as a Professor of History. But he was elected again and again to the Chamber of Deputies, and there took an active part in inciting the revolution of 1830, which deposed Charles X. and installed Louis Philippe as the Citizen King.

It was natural that Guizot should be called to the Cabinet, and then commenced the most remarkable period of his influence in French politics. First a co-laborer with Thiers, a rivalry between the two for the office of Minister of the Interior brought them into a hostility which had a marked effect on the reign of Louis Philippe. Thiers became Premier, and Guizot took the position of Ambassador to England. As such he was regarded as a failure. He was too thoroughly a peace man to satisfy the ambitions of France. He contracted a treaty which shut France out from all participation in Eastern affairs, and forced the resignation of Thiers, because the King was unable to share the views of the latter concerning a more active national policy. Then, in 1840, Guizot succeeded to the Premiership, and for eight years he kept France out of all danger of foreign complications, although at the sacrifice of what a strong public sentiment considered the honor of the nation. The only occasion when he risked a war was when, in the face of British opposition, he endeavored to cement the friendship of France and Spain by bringing about the marriage of the Duc de Montpensier with the Spanish Infanta. This was one of the most serious blunders of his whole career. It aided in the undermining of the throne, and when the revolution of 1848 came, he fell under the tempest of popular indignation which paved the way to the second Republic. From thenceforth to his death he resumed the character of scholar and author, and faded completely out of politics. The value of his literary works, his vast information, his attractive style and his force as a writer will never be disputed, but his life was ill spent in his endeavors to secure for France a form of government that can never have any permanence there.

SPARROWS.

Little birds sit on the telegraph wires,
And chitter and flitter, and fold their wings,
Maybe they think that for them and their sires
Stretched always on purpose those wonderful strings;

And perhaps the thought that the world inspires
Dad plan for the birds, among other things.

Little birds sit on the slender lines,
And the news of the world runs under their feet;

How value rises and now declines,
How kings with their armies in battle meet;
And all the while, 'mid the soundless signs,
They chirp their small gossippings, foolish and sweet.

Little things light on the lines of our lives—
Hopes and joys and acts of to day;
And we think for those the Lord contrives,
Nor catch what the hidden lightnings say,
Yet from end to end His meaning arrives,
And His word runs underneath all the way.

Is life only wires and lightnings then,
Apart from that which about it clings?
Are the thoughts and the works and the prayers of men
Only sparrows that light on God's telegraph strings,
Holding a moment and gone again?
Nay; He planned for the birds with the larger things.

—Mrs. Whitney, in *Lattell's Living Age.*

A FARMER'S WIFE.

Matilda Fletcher thus describes a farmer's wife who is not only beautiful and wise, but possesses several cardinal virtues in addition:

The most beautiful woman I have ever known was a farmer's wife who attended to the household duties for a family of four, and also assisted in gardening and the light farm work; and yet I never saw her hands rough and red, and never even saw a freckle on her nose. Impossible! you say; how did she manage? I never asked her, but she had some envious neighbors who went slouching around with red, scaly hands, sunburnt faces, and hair matted with dust and oil, who let me into the dreadful secret. They informed me with many an ominous shake of the head, that she was just the proudest minx that ever lived; that she actually wore India rubber gloves when she used the broom and scrubbing brush, and always when she worked out doors; that she also had a bonnet made of oil silk, completely covering the head, face and neck, leaving only apertures for seeing and breathing, thus securing perfect freedom from sun, wind, and dust. Did you ever hear of such depravity? She also fastened her disbelief to a stick, so that she need not put her hands in hot water. For the same reason she did her laundry work with a machine and wringer. And then to see her in the afternoon tricked out in a fashionable white dress, with a bright colored ribbon at her throat, and a rose in her hair, entertaining in the parlor, as though she were the greatest lady in the land, was more than their patience could endure. And how they did pity her poor children, because "she would not let them eat pastry nor greasy food, for fear it might spoil their complexions."

The truth was, her plump little darlings always looked like fresh rosebuds, and she met them coming home from school with so much love and beauty and grace, that I don't see how she could be improved one atom by becoming a veritable angel. And her husband! He had such a satisfied expression, that it was a perfect aggravation to ordinary people to look at him. He deserved to be happy, because he encouraged and helped her to cultivate beauty and goodness, both in herself, her family and her home; and I don't know but her success principally belonged to him, because he bought her all the new inventions that could enlighten her labor, and all the delicate and pretty things she needed to adorn her home, and when she was sick he wouldn't let her touch work until she was well and strong. Strange as it may seem, at such times he actually waited on her with as much care and tenderness as he would if she had been the most valuable horse on the farm. Wise little woman; she knew how to improve her health and comeliness, and of course she was not ashamed to do it when she had his encouragement and approval. If, instead of devoted himself to her health, her beauty, her sweet disposition, her whole interest in life, and became an unlovely, broken spirited woman.

☞ Never was a saint a millionaire. Never was a millionaire a saint. Men who get rich aim at getting rich. They live for their own one purpose their thoughts and their energies are directed. They make their tastes, their friendships, their pleasures, all yield to this one engrossing object of pursuit. Men who get to Heaven aim at getting to Heaven. To this great object they deliberately consecrate their lives. The highest earthly interest must yield to this.

PIGEON CATCHING.

[From the Lewiston (Me.) Journal.]

Benjamin C. and Reuben F. Allen (father and son) are thrifty, well to-do farmers of Turner, Me. They also have the reputation of being skilful and successful pigeon catchers, taking each season from one to two hundred dollars' worth of birds. Benjamin, the elder Allen, has had a large experience in pigeon netting, he having sprung his first trap forty years ago. It was in the State of New Hampshire, and the birds were more plenty than they are now in this country, or any part of the State. One shilling per dozen was what the Concord dealers thought about right for them in those days. Now they sell readily for twelve shillings and sometimes more. The Allens have two beds, distant from each other about one mile. The necessity, or advantage rather, of two, is, that when the birds are driven from one, by netting or from any other cause, they fly to the other and so loss is prevented. Our reporter visited one of these beds a few days since. He found it situated in the centre of a clearing of about two acres in extent. Upon its sides was the "stand," which is made by stripping small trees of their foliage and smaller limbs, and setting them into the ground. In these limbs the birds light and remain until they are ready to descend upon the bed for the purpose of feeding. The bed is simply the feeding ground cleared for the purpose of working the net with which the birds are taken. This one is about twenty by twenty-three feet. The turf has been removed, and it is as smooth and hard as the cabin floor of a Western pioneer. Along one edge of the bed the grain (corn and buckwheat) is scattered, twelve or fourteen inches in width. There is also grain in a shallow trough that is supported by small poles about six feet in length. At once upon the disappearance of the snow in the spring the beds are visited, very carefully cleared of fallen leaves or other fallen substances, and the birds baited by leaving grain; and throughout the spring and summer they are visited and kept constantly supplied with food. But usually it is not until after the Allens have harvested their hay crop that they make any attempt to capture them. After haying, they devote their time largely to them. Almost as soon as it is light the beds are visited and replenished with grain, and again at noon the birds are fed; while at nearly all hours of the day the men, gun in hand, are haunting their localities to see that no outsiders trespass upon their property, and to shoot the predatory hawks which are the great scourge to pigeons and discouragement to pigeon catchers.

When the birds have gathered a sufficient number, and it is decided to catch them, the net with boxes for holding the birds is placed upon the wheelbarrow, and the whole trundled to the edge of the clearing. Here the boxes are left until wanted, and the net taken to the bed. The nets used by the Allens are of their own make, the meshes being about an inch square. They vary in size from twenty to twenty-five feet. One side of the net is attached to a rope a hundred feet or more in length. The ends are gathered upon a smaller and shorter cord, eight feet in length, which gives a slack which forms a large bag. In setting the net upon the bed one end of the long rope, as it is termed, is fastened to a little pole five feet high and forty or fifty feet distant from the bed. The other end is attached to a similar pole in the "bough house," which is located about thirty feet from the bed, and directly opposite the first pole. The bough house is just what its name indicates, a small house made of boughs, from which the birds are watched and the net sprung. When the rope is fastened on these poles it is stretched directly across the bed, the length of